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The Middlebury Campus

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Graded Abroad

Off-Campus Marks Counted

By LINDSEY WHITTON
News Editor

On Monday, Dec. 9, the Middlebury College faculty voted to include all grades received while studying abroad in student grade point averages (GPA).

The Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) had planned on proposing that abroad grades and course titles be listed on students' permanent transcripts but not factored into their GPA regardless of whether students attend Middlebury Schools Abroad or other universities. Hours before the vote, however, the EAC decided to endorse an amendment to their proposal that dictated all grades, from any university, be factored into students' Middlebury GPA. No students were made aware of the amendment before the vote.

Previously the College's policy was to factor grades received from Middlebury Schools Abroad into student's GPAs but not to count grades from other universities. The EAC, in an effort to promote consistency, had planned on suggesting a universal policy of listing, but not counting, all grades received abroad. The faculty vote, according to David Macey, director of Off-Campus Study, "gave accountability equal billing with consistency" by deciding to list and count every grade.

Ben LaBolt '03, student co-chair of Community Council, identified study abroad as the major academic issue that the faculty are reviewing this year and has been working with

> Nobody from the press was there. Nobody from the student body was there. And nobody even contacted us until three weeks after it happened.
> —Ben LaBolt '03

Meaghan McCormick '03, Student Government Association (SGA) director of academic affairs, on communicating student opinion to the faculty throughout the process. Many faculty members are concerned that students' academic standards slip during and after studying abroad, and the faculty is thus reconsidering

(see Social, page 4)

Rally on the Green

Vlad Lodoaba

Taking their grassroots message to the streets, Middlebury Town residents gather Saturday morning to urge peace in the face of continuing military escalation in the Middle East.

Bush Questions Affirmative Action

By CHRISTOPHER ATWOOD
Staff Writer

Last week the Bush administration filed "friend of the court" briefs opposing the University of Michigan's use of racial preference in admissions. By doing so, the White House cautiously weighed in on the increasing unpopularity of considering race when determining college acceptance. Even considering Bush's hostility to anything resembling racial quotas, the White House opted not to ask the Supreme Court to reverse the 1978 Bakke decision, which allowed race to be one of many factors used in university admissions. Instead, the Bush administration narrowed its critique of the issue, supporting a race-neutral approach to admissions while continuing to say that it backs the goal of racial diversity on college campuses nationwide.

Critics of affirmative action in higher education contend that racial preferences amount to a new form of racism called reverse discrimination, with white students

(see Affirmative, page 4)

Middlebury Social Scene Revamped

SGA Takes Measures to Bring Students Back to Campus, Proposal Seeks Absolvement of One Citation

By PIERCE GRAHAM-JONES
News Editor

This week, the Student Government Association (SGA) advanced four different programs that are all intended to make the Middlebury College campus more socially attractive for students. These measures come as a reaction to a perceived increase since last year in the number of students leaving campus for social events. As Zack Rice '05, who lives on campus, said, "I don't think there's been a weekend this year that I haven't spent at least one of the nights off campus."

Of particular concern, from the SGA's point of view, is that this increase in off-campus social participation creates a higher likelihood that students will drive drunk afterwards. They hope to counteract this by both discouraging students from driving drunk and encouraging students to participate in social events on campus.

The programs include a proposal that would allow students to eliminate their first citation from their record, an initiative designed to encourage a better utilization of the Juice Bar as a social space, an initiative designating a regular route for the Midd-Rides system and an initial plan for a new drunken driving awareness program.

The most recent of these programs, a proposal that would allow students to eliminate their first citation from their record, was passed by the SGA Senate last Sunday. Specifically, the program is designed to allow students to take an hour and a half long online alcohol awareness program, and in return their first citation will be absolved. Although the program is intended for first-time offenders only, upon implementation there would exist a grace period during which students with one or two citations

(see Social, page 3)

Mike Ryan

SGA initiatives aim to concentrate social events on campus, thereby reducing the risks associated with drunken driving.

D.U.I.s Up

The Middlebury Campus has learned that local Driving Under the Influence (D.U.I) violations spiked in 2002, with arrests climbing to 80 from just 65 the year prior. The upward trend was driven by a particularly dramatic leap in the 18- to 24-year old category, which accounted for 40 violations in 2002 and 18 in 2001.

The local D.U.I statistics, tracked by the Middlebury Police Department, add urgency to the on-campus dialogue about drunken driving. Administrators and students alike perceive a shift towards more off-campus parties, which increase the likelihood that students will drive under the influence.

"I'm not surprised by the number of arrests, nor am I surprised by the increase in the 18-24 age bracket," said Student Government Association Senior Senator Maggie Goedecke '03.

She suspects more off-campus parties might be the culprit, pointing to College data that show a decline in registered, on-campus parties in the fall of 2002. "There are more students in every class going to parties off campus," she said.

Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah noted an increase in the number of students cited for drunken driving last fall, even though that rise came amidst increased enforcement by the Middlebury Police Department.

Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley confirmed that enforcement has been stepped up in recent months. "We're out looking for indicators of someone who's under the influence," said Hanley. "We have an increased presence on the streets that we haven't had for the past few years."

—Devin Zatorski, managing editor

COLLEGE shorts

By ANDREA GISSING
News Editor

Yale Loses Four Students in Car Crash

Four Yale University undergraduates died and five others were injured as a result of a car crash that occurred early Friday morning, Jan. 17. The accident occurred when the sport utility vehicle they were driving collided with a tractortrailer that had jackknifed on Interstate 95 in Fairfield, Conn.

Sophomores Kyle M. Burnat and Andrew Dwyer, and junior Sean Fenton died of massive head injuries the night of the accident. Sophomore Nicholas Grass died the following day in the hospital. Freshmen Cameron Fine and Christopher Gary were discharged from the hospital Sunday, Jan. 19, sophomore Zachary was transferred to the infirmary Jan. 20. Freshman Brett Smith and Senior Eric Wenzel were still in critical condition as of January 23. The occupants of the other three vehicles were not seriously injured. The accident, which involved a total of four vehicles, took place around 5 a.m. The students were returning to Yale after a trip to New York City sponsored by a campus fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon.

University officials, after sending out a campus-wide e-mail notifying all students of the accident, canceled all home athletic events and held a service for the dead and the injured. The accident occurred a week after the beginning of the spring semester.

Source: *The New York Times* and U-Wire.com

U. of Md. Students Find New Use for Cell Phones

Twelve University of Maryland students are being investigated for allegedly using their cellular phones to share answers during the fall exams. According to campus officials, the students are accused of exchanging text messages containing answers for the exam questions.

Students apparently obtained the answers from friends reading off of answer keys posted outside the professors' offices, or else they downloaded the answers off of answer keys posted online.

This is the first time that the university has been faced with the use of cell phones as a tool for cheating. In response to the accusations, university administrators sent a memo to faculty members advising them to monitor the use of all electronic devices during exams, as well as refraining from posting answer keys until the exam has been completed. The use of cell phones to cheat is the latest step in the conflict between technology and academic honesty, following the use of essays plagiarized from the internet and information stored in high-end calculators.

Rutgers University Professor Donald L. McCabe, who has studied academic dishonesty, said there have been other incidents of students across the country using a cell phone to cheat. "Ten years ago, you'd hear about students using hand signals or tapping with pencils on their desk," McCabe said. "Things like this are displacing that. You don't have more cheaters, just more ways to cheat."

Source: *The Washington Post*

U. of Arkansas Students Make World-Record Find

Three University of Arkansas students, freshman Sarah Kee, junior Jonathan Gillip and senior Kevin Morgan, found what is believed to be a world-record fossil of an Actinoceratoid nautiloid, an ancient cephalopod related to modern-day squids, octopuses and nautiluses, in a ditch near Interstate 540 in Fayetteville, Ark. The fossil is now in the university museum, where the students and their geology professor, Walter Manger, will perform research before reconstructing the specimen for display.

"This really is a world-class find," said Manger. "These things are really rare, and they really add a lot to our research. Finding this couldn't have been a better deal for us."

The 330 million-year-old fossil, which is nine feet long, is almost a foot longer than the previous world-record specimen, unearthed by UA researchers in 1963.

Finding this second specimen gives researchers hope that more can be found in the Fayetteville area.

The students look forward to comparing the two specimens, one which is believed to be male and the other female, which could provide much information about the lives of the Actinoceratoid nautiloid and the conditions in which they lived during the Paleozoic Era. The students also plan to fit research on the fossil into an undergraduate project for university credit, as well as presenting their findings at several conferences.

Source: U-Wire.com

Quotes of the Week:

— All told, more than 3,000 suspected terrorists have been arrested in many countries. And many others have met a different fate. Let's put it this way: They are no longer a problem to the United States and our friends and allies.

President George W. Bush in his State of the Union Address last night

I was shocked in the way in which it was treated. This topic affects 60% of students – more than financial aid, more than smoking.

SGA PresidentGinny Hunt '03 on the lack of student input in the abroad grades decision

— The reason it was missing was not because anyone consciously tried to keep it out. The reason it was missing is that it chose not to be there.

President John McCardell, responding to why the student voice was not part of the abroad grades decision

— There are students who are failing abroad – mostly in Australia. They are now going to have to start studying or not going to Australia.

Director of Off Campus Study David Macey on the possible effects of the new abroad grades policy

— I don't think that College realizes that we are sincere when we say that we are concerned about our fellow students.

Hunt, responding to drunk driving statistics and an unrelated comment on the need for student activism

— We may have avoided a crisis as a result of this meeting and I as your neighbor am grateful for this.

McCardell to members of PALANA house who claimed that the College misunderstood their wishes

Midd Brief

Campus Affected By Internet Worm

By NICOLAS EMERY
News Editor

Those of us at Middlebury College who have become accustomed to the high-speed Internet connection we enjoy here may have been disappointed in recent days by a noticeably slower connection speed.

This decrease has been caused by an Internet "worm" which struck thousands of computers Saturday, causing widespread disruptions in business in the United States and Europe by Monday morning when computers were started up again after the weekend.

Dubbed the "Slammer" worm, security firms estimate that it is the worst act of Internet sabotage in 18 months.

A worm is a software program that infiltrates a computer and replicates itself, redistributing itself to other computers using e-mail or other transport mechanisms.

The Internet then becomes clogged with the worm and its replications, slowing efficiency.

The Slammer worm in particular works by seeking computers running Microsoft's SQL Server database software, which has a known vulnerability.

According to Director of Network Design and Operations Howie McCausland, the College network has not been affected in any way by the worm.

While the network itself has not been affected, McCausland reports that "our path to the rest of the Internet is being clogged."

Approximately 25 percent of the College's bandwidth has been cut off because of the clogged Internet.

Microsoft knew of the vulnerability in its software and issued a patch for it six months ago, but many businesses had not updated their computers with the patch when the worm struck.

McCausland emphasized that "this worm is very prolific in its propogation," meaning that tracking the creators of this worm will be nearly impossible.

Within the first minute of the attack thousands of computers were affected.

Bank cash machines have been particularly affected by the worm, which rendered them incapable of dispensing cash.

"The effects of the worm will diminish steadily over the next few days," said McCausland.

Public Safety Log

Date	Time	Incident	Category	Location	Disposition
1/14/03	11:27 a.m.	Vandalism	Card Access Reader	Forest	Referred to Commons Dean
1/14/03	5:10 p.m.	Vandalism	Card Access Reader	Painter	Referred to Commons Dean
1/13/03		Theft	Vacuum Parts	Memorial Field House	No Suspects
1/17/03	9:40 p.m.	Drug Violation	Pipe	Allen	Referred to Commons Dean
1/17/03	8:30 p.m.	Theft	Jacket	Proctor	Case Closed
1/19/03	2:55 a.m.	Drug Violation	Bong	Davis	Referred to Commons Dean
1/19/03	3:30 a.m.	Vandalism	Sign	Ross Dining	Referred to Commons Dean
1/18/03	11:12 p.m.	Vandalism	Door/Window	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
1/18/03	11:50 p.m.	Vandalism	Door/Window	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
1/17/03	11:50 p.m.	Vandalism	Door/Window	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
1/19/03	9:18 a.m.	Vandalism	Hole in wall	McCullough McCullough	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
unknown	unknown	Vandalism	Poster Torn	Atwater Allen	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
1/24/03	10:50 p.m.	Drug Violation		Gifford Lounge	Referred to Commons Dean
1/24/03	11:40 p.m.	Drug Violation		Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
1/25/03	12:51 a.m.	Domestic Assault		Gifford	MPD
1/25/03	8:50 p.m.	Drug Violation		Ross	Referred to Commons Dean
1/25/03	11:28 p.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
1/25/03	11:53 p.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine		Referred to Commons Dean
1/26/03	11:58 p.m.	Vandalism	Smashed Wine Bottle		Referred to Commons Dean

Housing Crunch Overruns Lounges in Hepburn, Gifford; Angers Students

By DAN POLIFKA
Staff Writer

On account of a high acceptance rate for the incoming class of 2006.5 and shifting housing trends for upperclassmen, there is an anticipated housing shortage for the spring semester of this year. In addition, because so many juniors were late in formulating their plans for the spring, housing assignments for mid-year graduates were not mailed out until Jan. 18.

Residential System Coordinator Mariah McKechnie maintains that "although the Febs will be more spread out than usual, the main impact will be on returning juniors," who will have a difficult time finding acceptable rooms.

The reason traces back to a high yield in the admissions process last year. Although the admissions department accepted the number of Febs in accordance with its projections, more students than anticipated matriculated, resulting in a yield of over 50%. Further exacerbating the problem, only one student changed plans before the year started, as opposed to the usual five.

In all, there are 129 incoming Febs, exceeding the goal of 115. Although the difference seems small, it is very difficult to find beds for 14 additional students in an already tight campus.

This is further complicated by what McKechnie called "changes in housing trends." Many seniors who had been living elsewhere moved to LaForce Hall, creating a ripple effect. Consequently there are currently more sophomores in Gifford and Hepburn Halls, traditionally junior halls. Few sophomores go abroad, so these halls which are usually hot-spots for Febs are not available this year.

Febs will be spread around 14 residence halls, encompassing almost all of the "appropriate" housing for them — a group that excludes social houses, other houses, and some mostly senior halls like Forest and LaForce.

Many people are concerned that the Febs will not gel as a class as they normally do because they will be so spread out. Yet another issue concerns upperclassmen, particularly in Hepburn, Gifford and Hadley, who are losing their lounges to house Febs.

> Febs will be spread around 14 residence halls, encompassing almost all of the "appropriate" housing for them.

Michael Stahler '03, an Residential Assistant in Hepburn, adds, "Twenty-nine out of 30 responses from Hadley residents have been overwhelmingly against [converting lounges into rooms]... by doing so we are losing two-thirds of our public space." Stahler has been speaking to the administration about getting some common rooms back.

"There is a lot of uncertainty," McKechnie said of the up to 14 lounges set to be altered. "It will undoubtedly be touch and go until February starts. The goal above all is to have everyone in a bed for opening day," she continued

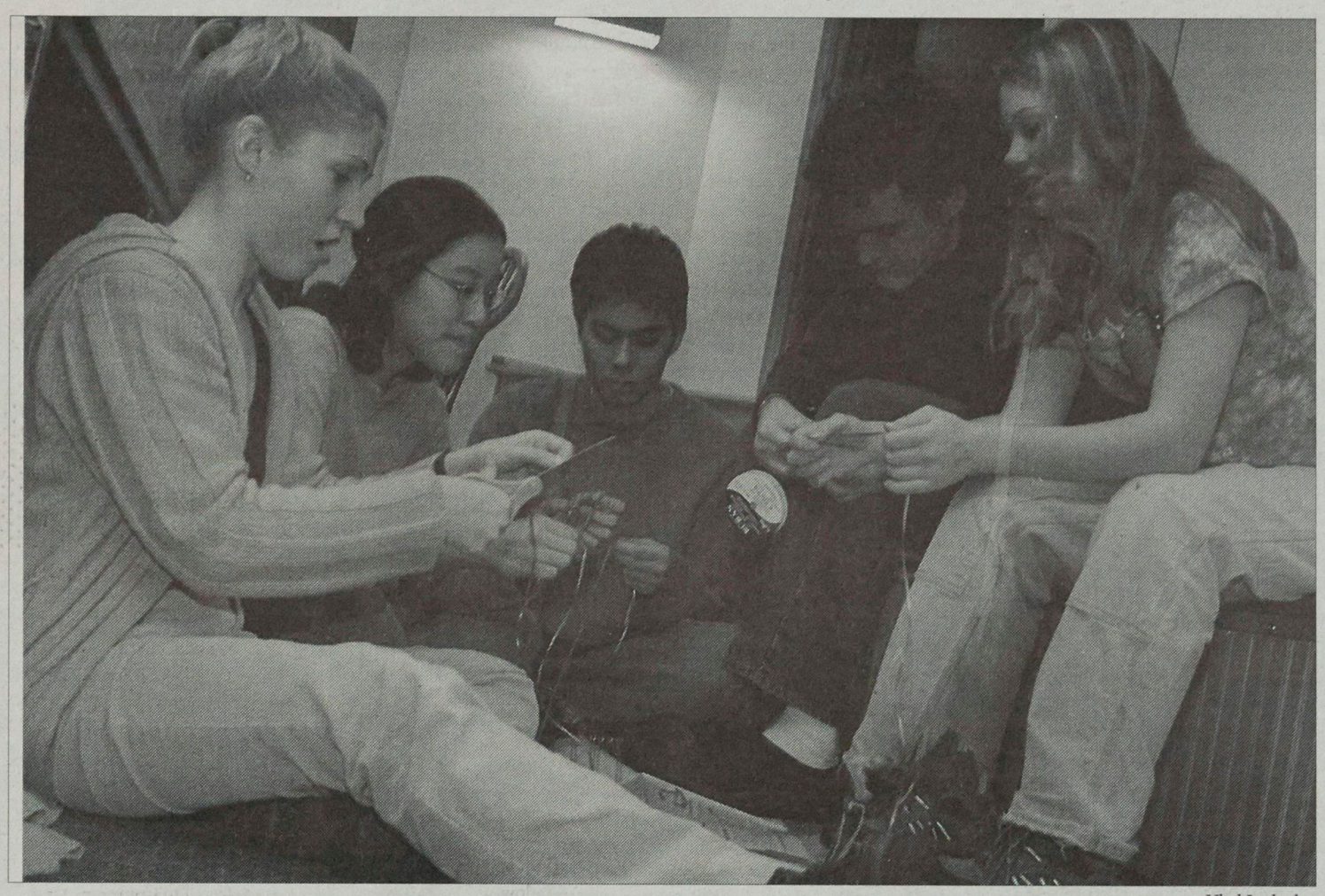
Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld acknowledged the problems, but he does see a positive side to the housing crunch. "What is happening is in some ways a result of how popular Middlebury is becoming... We have a record number of applicants this year."

He went on to note, "We will be tight for one more year. This is because the expansion of Atwater Commons will be complete in 2004," adding over 200 new beds.

Schuyler Van Horn

Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld visits with residents of Hepburn Hall. A housing crunch for the spring semester has led to the conversion of lounges into dorm rooms.

Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility



Vlad Lodoaba

February graduates from Middlebury College will soon have the chance to sign the 2003 Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility. Those who sign the Pledge voluntarily commit to take into account the social and environmental consequences of their personal and career choices after graduation. The Pledge states "I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of my daily actions and of any job I consider, and I will try to improve those aspects of any organization for which I work." It was first introduced at the College for the May 2002 graduation ceremony by Michael Silberman '02.5.
Approximately 50% of graduates signed the Pledge and an even greater percentage of faculty wore the green ribbons on their gowns.
"We want it to be clear that anyone can sign the Pledge," said Silberman, "You don't need to be pursuing a career in the environment or human rights to fulfill the goals of the Pledge."
For more information, contact committee co-chairs Devon Bertram and Michael Silberman or visit the GPMC Website at www.middlebury.edu/~gpmc.

—Nicolas Emery, news editor

Social Attraction

(continued from page 1)

would be able to participate as well. The proposal will now go in front of the Community Council.

The SGA also announced and orchestrated a revision of Juice Bar policy. Their goals with these changes are, as SGA President Ginny Hunt '03 put it, "to use the space more" and "to make it more accessible and open to student input." These measures entail an increase of the selection of beers available at the Juice Bar, a decrease in the prices of these beers and an elimination of drink limits previously imposed upon drinkers.

Additionally, they hope to encourage student groups to utilize the social space more often by giving them the opportunity to subsidize drinks at the Juice Bar, thus making it cheaper or even free for students attending the event to get beer. For instance, the SGA will be using some of their funding to host a "Feb Farewell" this Thursday, during which the first 200 drinks sold will be only 25 cents.

The long-awaited expansion and alteration of the Midd-Rides system is also related to these efforts and is being implemented this week. The student transportation service will now operate with a set route, continuously circulating through each stop every 35 to 45 minutes. The SGA hopes this will increase awareness and overall student use of the service.

The change that is even more directly related to the SGA's discouragement of drunk driving, however, is the addition of a stop at Frog Hollow in the town of Middlebury.

This stop is located near the bars Angela's and Two Brother's Tavern, and is anticipated to offer an alternative ride home for students returning from these popular student destinations.

Digital Bridges 2003

Vlad Lodoaba

On Jan. 25 and 26, Middlebury College hosted the "Digital Bridges 2003" conference. This conference focused on the effects and accessibility of the Internet and consisted of several different panels exhibiting how the Internet affects both businesses and the individual. Both Middlebury students and professionals from across the country were present. The conference was organized by David K. Smith Professor of Economics Michael Claudon. "Once again Middlebury students delivered a simply wonderful experience for everyone at DigitalBridges2003. The content they and their panelists delivered was right on and showed us just how extensively an always-on digital current and pervasive Internet is fundamentally challenging everything: how we work, play, and do business; what we mean by liberal arts education; and the extent to which we can or cannot protect our personal liberties and privacy," said Claudon.Much was learned at the conference this weekend, including one of the negative aspects of the Internet. "Perhaps the most disturbing thing learned during the weekend was that the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) is sending armies of bots across the Web and into our PC's, searching for evidence of suspect peer-to-peer music and video sharing" said Claudon. "It's one thing for a government agency to collect information where criminal activity is suspected, but for private enterprises to spy on individuals with impunity shows us just how dark is the dark side of the Internet."

—Mary Mendoza, staff writer

Faculty Change Abroad Grading Policy

(continued from page 1)

the entire program with a stress on the academic merit of abroad experience. "It's a genuine problem," Macey said, "when students come back from being abroad and tell their academic advisors about all the beer they learned to drink." The majority of faculty members decided in December that one way of assuring an academic focus was to make students accountable for their grades.

LaBolt, however, is concerned. "In general," he said, "what passed is a negative policy because now we are pouring 80 different grading systems (or whatever number of schools students go to) onto the same page and throwing it into the GPA." Ginny Hunt '03, president of the SGA, voiced her apprehension on counting different systems into academic honors and awards, such as membership into the Cum Laude Society.

Macey, however, is confident that although the new policy might be more labor intensive, his office will be able to accurately and fairly translate all abroad grades into Middlebury's system. "It's a task," he said, "but by no means an impossible task. There are a whole range of guidelines."

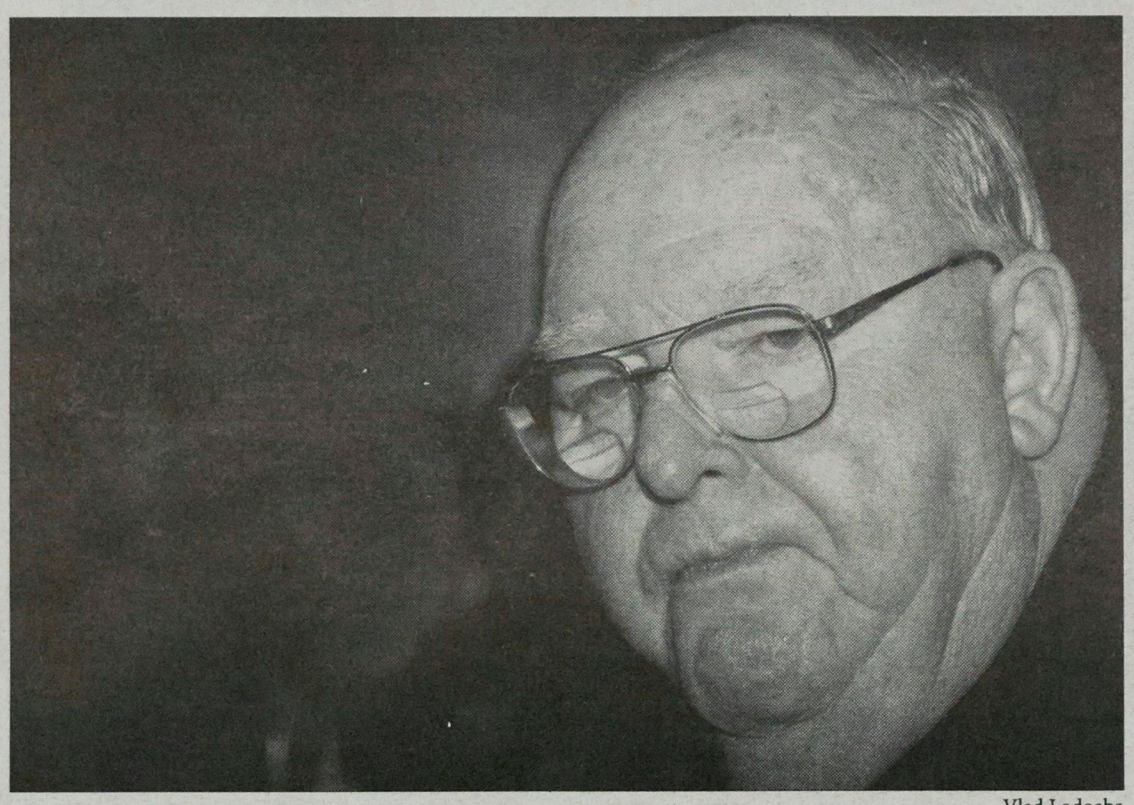
Hunt is unconvinced. "I think this will have more consequences then were considered when the vote took place," she said.

Hunt and LaBolt are most concerned over what they both described as "a breakdown of communication between the faculty and the student body" when the decision was made, especially since the Dec. 9 vote was the first in a yearlong review process. The SGA had endorsed the original EAC proposal, but when the last minute amendment was added, no students were informed. When, in the open forum on Monday, SGA Press Secretary Katherine Milgram '03 asked President John McCardell why the "student voice was missing in the decision," he responded by saying that, "the reason it was missing was not because anyone consciously tried to keep it out. The reason it was missing is that it chose not to be there."

The SGA and Student EAC had assumed that the original proposal would be passed and, since the faculty vote was held during exam week, had not attended the meeting. "I will take part of the blame for not going," Hunt said, "but I don't even receive the faculty meeting agenda." In the future, she will request the agenda and attend all faculty meetings with LaBolt. She still thinks, however, that in this case, the SGA should have been made aware. "Procedurally, I think that it was a mistake that no students were consulted. It was a wakeup call for everyone."

Hunt and LaBolt are still unsure how to respond. They are deliberating whether they should have a faculty member bring the matter up for reconsideration. LaBolt admits that reconsideration of a vote is "not frequently effective or used, but procedurally, we really object to what happened." They have decided, however, to focus on furthering their agenda in other parts of the study abroad review, most importantly encouraging a policy of "portable" financial aide. Currently Middlebury students have difficulty transferring their financial aid if they are not attending a Middlebury School Abroad. Hunt thinks that since the faculty adopted a universal grading policy, they should implement a similar approach to financial aid. "If GPAs are going to be considered," she said, "then all students should have the opportunity to study abroad."

Bishop Visits Middlebury



Vlad Lodoaba

Roman Catholic Bishop, *of Vermont Kenneth Angell visited Middlebury College Jan. 15 to have dinner with Newman Club members. 25 people attended the dinner in Ross Fireplace Lounge.*

Affirmative Action?

(continued from page 1)

being ignored in favor of less qualified minority applicants in order to maintain diversity. Supporters of racial preferences respond by saying affirmative action is essential as long as minority students remain underrepresented at many public universities. Nationally, blacks make up 11 percent of undergraduate students. At Middlebury, 19 to 21 percent of recently matriculated classes identified as non-Caucasian. Nationally, 17 percent of college and university students identified as such.

According to a recent *Newsweek* poll, most Americans resist affirmative action in higher education, wary of rules that seem to favor applicants because of what they are as opposed to who they are. In that poll, whites opposed preferences for blacks by a 72 to 22 percent margin, with minorities opposing such preferences by a 56 to 38 percent split.

The Supreme Court must ultimately establish when, if at all, universities should give preference to students based on the color of their skin. If the Supreme Court rules that the use of racial preferences is unconstitutional, public universities across the nation that receive most of their funding from the state and federal government will be most immediately affected by being forced to bring in a racially mixed student body without breaking a possible ban against preferences.

Since Middlebury College has far fewer applicants than most public universities, the admissions process is much more personalized — many people mull over each application, considering a number of issues that contribute to a student's selection. Race and ethnicity can be one issue among many, but do not insure any student's acceptance.

"Diversity of several kinds is important to Middlebury," said Director of Admissions John Hanson, "geographic, socio-economic, racial, ethnic, religious — whatever combination of characteristics and circumstances may bring additional light to bear on any given issue.

The Admissions Office mails information to several thousand secondary schools, visits more than one thousand schools annually and makes special outreach efforts for international, inner-city and rural students." He continued, "No college or university can be or should attempt to be all things to all people, but it is consistent with Middlebury's mission statement and curricular emphases to bring as many points of view to bear on as many areas of learning as is possible within the perameters of the liberal arts."

Larger public universities with student bodies in the tens of thousands cannot allocate such specific attention to each applicant and often depend on numerical rather than subjective criteria. Percentiles often inform the make-up of their student bodies, creating an admissions process where race could be used more as affirmative action than as one contributing factor.

"I believe that a war with Iraq right now would be nothing short of a crime against peace, a crime against the people of Iraq and a crime against the international community at large."
— Wellington Lyons '04

Middlebury Students Travel to D.C. to Protest

By NICOLAS EMERY
News Editor

On Jan. 18, 2003, 23 Middlebury College students joined approximately 200,000 activists for a peace rally in Washington, D.C. Wellington Lyons '04 organized the Middlebury trip to Washington and put up anti-war posters around campus advertising the rally.

The crowd braved freezing temperatures and wind, gathering on the National Mall to hear various speakers express their anti-war sentiments. Among the speakers was the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

"Let's choose minds over missiles and negotiation over confrontation," he said. "We are not finding out about security, we are finding out about hegemony and oil and defense contracts. We deserve better."

Following the rally on the Mall, the crowd marched through the streets of the capital, chanting and brandishing signs for peace. The destination of the march was the Washington Navy Yard, a military installation in Southeast Washington.

A symbolic "people's inspection team" demanded to inspect the site for weapons of mass destruction, mocking the United Nations inspection teams in Iraq.

> Let's choose minds over missiles and negotiation over confrontation.
> —Rev. Jesse Jackson

Lyons found out about the rally in October and by Winter Term his outrage with the Bush Administration's handling of the situation in Iraq resulted in organizing the trip to Washington.

"I felt that if I ignored this opportunity to express my dissent," he said, "I would have no right to criticize the war once innocent civilians started to die, or once American soldiers started losing their lives."

Samuel Padgett '06, another College student who traveled to Washington, expressed his concern over the crisis in Iraq: "I believe the imminent war with Iraq is motivated more by politics and business than by national security."

Eighteen of the Middlebury students rode to Washington in a bus caravan organized by Central Vermont Peace and the remaining five rode in a student's car.

Tickets for the bus were originally $55 each, but after contributions from campus groups The New Left and the Progressives, the round trip cost was reduced to $25.

The Middlebury group left the College Friday night and returned Sunday morning.

There were no reports of violence or confrontations during the rally.

Rebecca Leaphart '03 reported, "Though I did not witness any violence, I did take note of protesters protesting the peace march."

This included several men in suits standing in a balcony holding American flags and a banner reading "Go Home Hippies."

The group of Middlebury students and other Vermonters sported stickers and wore shirts reading "Vermonters for Peace." Lyons carried a stop sign which he modified to read "Stop War."

The rally in Washington was only one of dozens organized in 25 countries by the group Act Now to Stop War and End Racism (ANSWER). Japan, Pakistan, Russia and Egypt were a few of the countries that had citizens who participated in anti-war rallies.

In the United States the major rallies took place in Washington D.C. and San Francisco. The San Francisco rally is estimated to have drawn a similar number of protesters as the one in Washington.

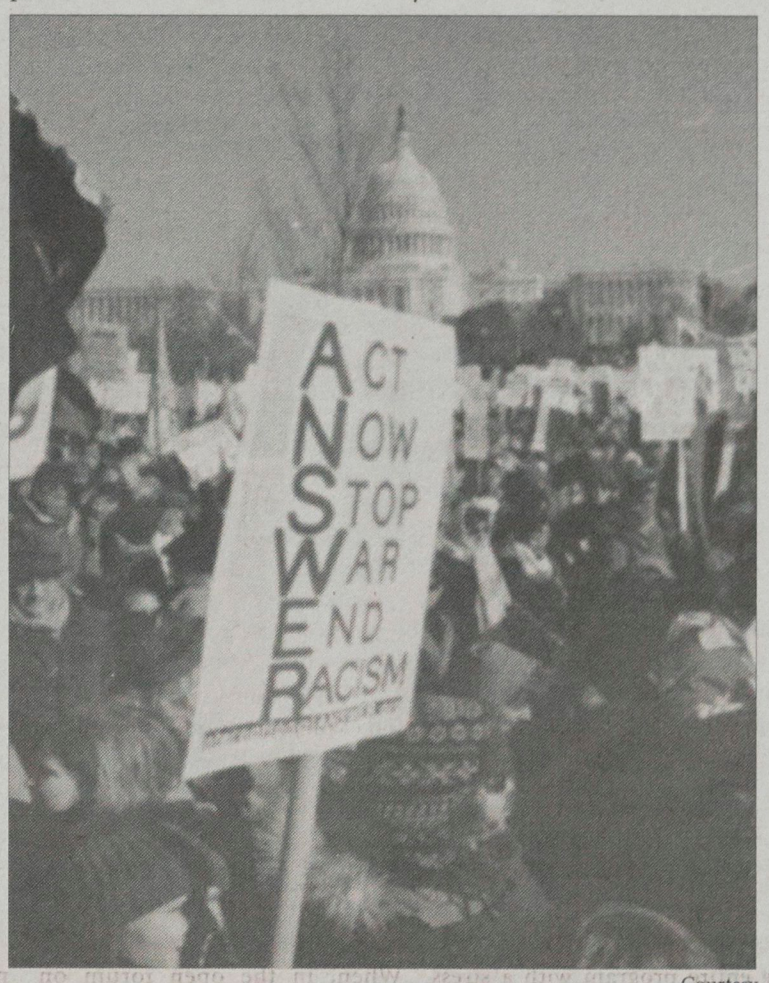
According to CNN.com, ANSWER organized transportation from more than 200 cities in 45 states for the two rallies in the U.S.

This rally was not Lyons' first experience with activism.

He participated in an anti-war rally in Washington shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, and several anti-globalization rallies since then.

Currently he operates an e-mail list which notifies Middlebury students of upcoming protests and events.

"I believe that a war with Iraq right now would be nothing short of a crime against peace, a crime against the people of Iraq and a crime against the international community at large," said Lyons.



Courtesy
Middlebury students journeyed to Washington, D.C., to protest a possible war with Iraq.

Wanna knock the Pants
off your Sweetheart this
Valentine's Day?
Send $2.00 and your Personal Message
to McCullough Mail Center Drawer 30
To show how much you love your
sweetheart in a classified!!!

Dorothy Douglas Assumes Role as Vermont's First Lady

By KELSEY RINEHART
Local News Editor

Dorothy Douglas, Vermont's new first lady, has lived in Middlebury all of her life. One of six children, Douglas' relatives own Foster Brothers Farm Inc. and Foster Motors, which are both located in town.

In 1975, Dorothy Foster became Dorothy Douglas. Her husband, now Governor James Douglas '72, has since climbed the political ladder, moving from a position as an Addison County legislator to the majority leader of the Vermont House to Secretary of State, State Treasurer and finally Governor.

> Outright, there's no way he's running for president. People have always thought that his main goal was to be governor, but it wasn't. There wasn't this one goal. He just wants to do the best he can, wherever that leads him.
>
> –Dorothy Douglas, first lady of Vermont

The Douglass' two sons, Matt, 22, and Andrew, 20, both graduated from Middlebury Union High School. Matt is an engineer and Andrew is a junior at Bentley College. The family lives in a modest ranch house on South Munger Street in Middlebury.

Douglas has worked in town at Dr. John Langfeldt's general dentistry practice for 30 years and has no plans to give up her job as a dental assistant despite her new role as first lady.

Additionally, Douglas remains deeply committed to her family, making daily visits to the home of her parents, Helen and Howard Foster.

Since assuming their latest political roles, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas attended a National Governors Association conference in Texas. Dorothy said she was amused to discover that seminars given at the conference included "How to Manage a Mansion" and "How to Hire Staff."

The couple will soon travel to the nation's capital to attend a White House dinner and a meeting of the National Governors Association.

The Middlebury Campus recently caught up with Mrs. Douglas to discuss her new position as Vermont's first lady.

The Campus: You have lived in Middlebury all your life. Would you say that Middlebury is a very politically active town? Has the Middlebury community changed in this regard throughout the years?

Douglas: Well, I grew up in a family that was very involved in public service. My uncle was involved and my father was on the planning commission, etc. I've been on the periphery.

The Campus: Do you feel that as Vermont's first lady you have a specific role? Do you think that former first ladies in Vermont have fulfilled this role completely, or do you want to establish a new precedent?

Douglas: The first ladies, per se, have not had any real active role. Jim and I went to a conference for governors-elect and their spouses, and met a lot of first ladies that have offices in the capitol and their own staff. Here in Vermont, we haven't had that. I'm just not sure how it's all going to work out. I have a full-time job and family commitments, but I hope to be able to be more visible. How extensive that will be, I'm not sure.

The Campus: Do you feel that your position in the community has changed since your husband's election?

Douglas: No, it's the same. We're more recognizable, that sort of thing, but other than that, nothing's changed. I want it to be that way.

The Campus: Your husband has been at the Statehouse for many years now, and has held increasingly prominent positions. Have your lives changed significantly since the election and the inauguration? Are there changes that you like and dislike that come with your husband's new position?

Douglas: Changes, no. Like I said before, being more recognizable. A lot of people will approach us–people want to try to influence the governor. Personally, the only change has been the security people that pick him up. He's doing what he's done for 30 years, and will continue to do so. He is a servant to the people.

> I have a full-time job and family committments, but I hope to be able to be more visible.
>
> –Dorothy Douglas, first lady of Vermont

The Campus: In a rural state like Vermont with many small towns, including Middlebury, do you think citizens feel differently towards government? Do you think that, for example, if your husband were elected governor of any other state, the change would be more drastic?

Douglas: We're unique because we're accessible.

In some of the larger states, the governor is probably off away from everything. Each state is unique. There's no across-the-board way of running things.

The Campus: How was the inaugural ball?

Douglas: It was a ball! (laughs) We were in a receiving line almost the whole night. People had a really good time. There were a lot of people there.

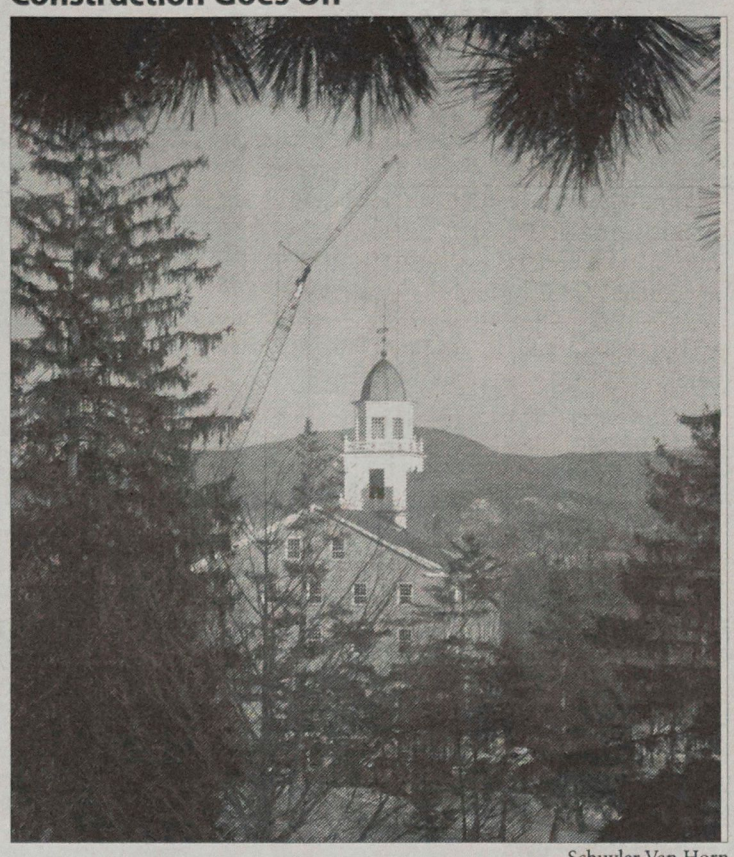
The Campus: Howard Dean has recently chosen to follow his long career in Vermont government with a bid for the presidency. Would your husband want to leave state government for a position on the national level? What changes would this transition bring?

Douglas: Outright, there's no way he's running for president. People have always thought that his main goal was to be governor, but it wasn't.

There wasn't this one goal.

He just wants to do the best he can, wherever that leads him.

Construction Goes On



Schuyler Van Horn

Construction on the new library, goes strong through the winter.

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Vermont Gun Control Gets D-

By PETER FARONI
Staff Writer

On Jan. 8, the Brady Campaign, a Washington-based advocacy group that works in conjunction with the Million Mom March for the prevention of gun violence, issued its annual "report card" scoring state laws for protecting children from guns. On its most recent report card Vermont received a D-, making it one of the 28 states to receive a D or lower.

Critics say Vermont laws fail to hold adults responsible for allowing children access to loaded guns and do not require waiting periods or background checks for buying a gun. Chad Ramsey of the Brady Campaign commented, "The thing with Vermont is they have such a long way to go … there's a laundry list of things that can be done."

Schuyler Van Horn

Vermont's gun culture is under fire from gun control advocates.

Vermont also received low marks for allowing 16-year-olds to carry concealed weapons in public. Additionally, critics cited Vermont's failure to establish safety standards for handguns as an alarming weakness in state gun control efforts. Ramsey points out, "Just requiring child safety locks sold with each gun is such a small step." Vermont would have received a failing grade if not for its limit on the sale to or possession of handguns by children under 15.

Despite yearly censures from the Brady Campaign, there have been few significant changes in gun control laws. Vermont has received a D- since the organization began issuing its reports six years ago. However, state National Rifle Association (NRA) officials have discredited the Brady Campaign as an effort to restrict firearms

(see Gun Control, page 7)

Ginevan Talks Training, Touts Governor Douglas' Committment to Vermont Workers

By JON WHITE
Editor-in-Chief

Anne Ginevan, commissioner of the Vermont Department of Employment and Training, lends additional Middlebury influence to Governor Jim Douglas '72's administration. Douglas appointed Ginevan after her work on the Workforce Investment Board at the Addison County Chamber of Commerce.

Ginevan, a native of Pennsylvania who holds a doctorate in educational foundations, has been a Middlebury resident for 30 years. Ginevan was active in launching Project Independence, an adult-daycare program based in Middlebury, in the late '70s. She went on to become executive director of the United Way of Addison County. Ginevan also served on the board of Middlebury Union High School for six years, three of those years as chair. She remains active on the Helen Porter Health Care and Rehabilitation Center Board.

In 1996 Ginevan was elected to the first of two terms as Middlebury representative to the Vermont Legislature. In her first term, she served on the Education Committee and during her second on the House Appropriations Committee. Ginevan, a Republican, lost her seat in the legislature in the 2000 election in part, she said, because of support for civil unions. It was upon her return to Middlebury that she became active in the Workforce Investment Board (WIB).

The WIB in Addison County, also known as the Business Education Partnership, coordinates the needs of employers and workers. The board confers with local businesses about the types of employees they are seeking and the skills they desire. When employees lose jobs, often they need to be retrained to remain competitive in the job market. In some instances, the board works with Vermont Technical College on training projects.

Now that Ginevan oversees the Department of Employment and Training (DET), her responsibilities center on the management of 12 Career Resource Offices throughout the state, including one in Middlebury. These offices used to be known simply as the local "unemployment office," but Ginevan explained that the recent name change reflects the more positive role these offices play in the lives of Vermont workers. Resume writing workshops are available at the offices, and workers can also enlist in statewide apprenticeship programs through a liaison at the Career Resource Office. These programs include training for electricians, plumbers and for child care.

In addition to overseeing these offices, Ginevan spends her time in Montpelier handling unemployment insurance benefits claims and appeals on a weekly basis. She also supervises the distribution of federal money under the Workforce Investment Act , which started in 1998. According to Ginevan, her Department uses these resources for adult, youth and dislocated workers for educational and training programs statewide. Dislocated workers are men and women left unemployed by a plant closing who must learn new job skills.

The Middlebury Campus interviewed Ginevan last week about her new position at the DET.

The Campus: What experience from your work in Addison County, specifically at the WIB at the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, do you see transferring to your statewide work?

Ginevan: Working at the Chamber of Commerce certainly gave me the opportunity to work with local businesses and to understand their needs in the areas of workforce training and skill development.

I also learned how cooperatively different agencies and programs work together.

This is certainly the way that the DET should and actually does work on a statewide basis. They partner with many other agencies in order to offer the best services in the areas of training and apprenticeship programs.

I learned a great deal about how responsive our state colleges and local technical centers are in developing coursework that is appropriate for people in pursuing new careers.

> It is the relationship between these two areas–jobs and education–that my department must develop ... the bridge that will support and sustain the working people of Vermont.
>
> –Anne Ginevan, commissioner of the Vermont Department of Employment and Training

The ability to coordinate and partner with education and business is what I will take with me to my new position.

The Campus: What is one goal you hope to see accomplished in your department over the next few years?

Ginevan: The goal I wish to accomplish is to put in place the proper relationship between educational institutions, businesses and funders, whether they be the state government, federal government or private resources, in order to offer the necessary training to have the very best and highly skilled workforce to meet the needs of the twenty-first century.

The Campus: Governor Douglas has committed to reviving Vermont's economy and helping the state's workforce. What of Douglas' pledge has emerged in your work thus far?

Ginevan: Governor Douglas is committed to investing in the future of Vermont. He intends to support, through additional funding, the development of new jobs through economic development and helping to provide for the education of that workforce by supporting higher education.

It is the relationship between these two areas–jobs and education–that my department must develop ... the bridge that will support and sustain the working people of Vermont.

The Governor is already supporting the DET by restoring funding of the Workforce Education and Training Fund, which wasn't funded in the last budget, and he will increase funding for apprenticeship programs that are the backbone of developing highly skilled, licensed technical service workers who are in scarce supply.

I believe the major challenge of the Department of Employment and Training is to be sure that the workforce of tomorrow is prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

Braving the Cold for a Cause

Vlad Lodoaba

"Don't Make War in My Name." *Another protester walks the grounds of the the Town Green in Middlebury. President Bush's State of the Union address made war seem imminent Tuesday evening.*

Vermont Gun Control

(continued from page 6)

sales to civilians under the guise of safety.

Vermont's choice to "stick to its guns" over gun control policy can be ascribed to its expectation that citizens owning and using firearms will behave responsibly. Bill Leipold, president of Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Vermont's branch of the NRA, stated, "Vermont's law is straightforward — it's a crime to carry a firearm with the intent to commit a crime. I think that firearms in the hands of lawful citizens are a wonderful deterrent to violent crime and to burglary."

Former legislator Frederick Maslack (R-Poultney) would agree strongly with Leipold. In 2000, Maslack, a vocal opponent of gun control, introduced before the Vermont Legislature a bill that would have levied fine $500 against all citizens of military service age who were not in possession of a gun. Another bill Maslack introduced would have made basic military training mandatory in Vermont high schools. Both bills were defeated in committee, and Maslack was not reelected in the November election.

In response to criticism that Vermont needs more extensive gun laws for minors, Leipold said, "I think minors should be under adult supervision unless they've passed a hunter education class and proven themselves trustworthy." He maintained that liability laws already on the books sufficiently handle instances of parental negligence.

Though state gun laws have been heavily criticized by gun control groups, crime remains low in Vermont. Leipold affirmed "Vermont has one of the highest percentages of gun ownership and one of the lowest rates of violent crime. 'Nough said."

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Protestors Praise Peace From Town to Mall

Forty-five gather on the Green, 3,000 rally in the Montpelier, and 200,000 protest in D.C.

Rallies in Middlebury Go Strong Despite Frigid Temperatures

By MEGAN O'KEEFeE
Assistant Local News Editor

Three thousand peace activists rallied in Montpelier on Saturday, Jan. 18 to voice their opposition to a possible war with Iraq. Despite single-digit temperatures and abundant snow, protestors chanted, spoke and sang enthusiastically for an hour on the Statehouse lawn. The Montpelier protest was one of hundreds of similar anti-war gatherings held across the United States and around the world on Jan.18. Protests coincided with both Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and a continuing buildup of American military forces in the Persian Gulf.

The Monteplier rally began in front of Montpelier's City Hall where activists shouted political slogans and carried protest signs carrying messages such as "Bush is disturbing," "(nonviolent) Jihad for Peace" and "Peace is patriotic." The crowd marched slowly towards the capitol, singing and shouting.

Joseph David Budbill, a poet and author from Wolcott, Vt., spoke to the crowd of activists in front of the Statehouse. Budbill was greeted with overwhelming applause and cheers when he affirmed the intention of the peace rally. "Today we want to stand out here in the snow and freeze our butts off so we can tell George Bush where to go. It's not time for war. It's not time for war and killing. It's a time for singing and dancing."

According to Joseph Gainza of the American Friends Service Committee, one of the rally's organizers, the protest was one of the largest ever held in Vermont. Many of the peaceful demonstrators said they were proud to be from a state whose congressional delegates have all voted against war with Iraq. Gainza told a cheering crowd that the rally is one example of what a small state can do. "The congressional members of Vermont said no," he announced proudly.

Vermont's three congressional delegates prepared statements that were read at the rally. Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy wrote, "It is a privilege for me to represent a state whose citizens have always been among the most thoughtful voices, and sometimes also the most outspoken voices. I applaud you for giving voice to your convictions."

Nine busloads of Vermonters also traveled to Washington, D.C., to participate in a rally of 200,000 peace protestors on Jan. 18.

In addition to holding large rallies around Vermont, citizen groups are voicing their concern in peace vigils held in small towns and communities. A growing number of Addison County residents have taken part in the escalating peace movement, meeting locally in peaceful protest each Saturday morning on Middlebury's town green.

> It's partly a prayer, it's partly a matter of saying, 'I feel so strongly on this issue that I want everyone in my community to know how I feel.'
>
> — Winslow Colwell, Middlebury resident and peace vigil coordinator

While the national rise in peace rallies has developed with the growing threat of war with Iraq, "peace vigils" on the Middlebury Green were taking place well over a year ago, immediately following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

Winslow Colwell, a Middlebury resident who coordinates the weekly peace vigils and oversees e-mail communications among group members, noted, "The idea came about through the Middlebury Friends meetings, through the Quakers. We have a committee, which is kind of our political wing, which is called Peace and Social Concerns. And at a meeting that we had right after 9/11 we thought that it would be wonderful for us to have a public vigil, basically to witness publicly that this is not a time for violent retaliation."

Since that first peace vigil, residents have gathered each Saturday from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. While vigil participants began their efforts as an immediate response to the precarious political situation that followed Sept. 11, the vigils have since continued, taking on increased importance. As the possibility of war with Iraq looms large, participants have become increasingly aware of the significance of their protest.

"The notion that this would be something that would be continuing this long is something that we wouldn't have anticipated at that point. But it seems like there has never been a time when it seems like we can rest and not go out. In other words, the need for us to be there seems to actually be stronger now than ever," said Colwell.

Since the vigils began, participants have only seen their ranks grow. What began as a gathering of six people has now become a dedicated group of 35 to 45 protestors. Initially, the group was largely composed of Quakers, but Colwell said, "As many other people started to join us and to ask about it, we decided that it was really more appropriate to open this up to a wider circle."

The vigils are now coordinated officially by the Addison County Peace Coalition, a group of people from all over Addison County. Colwell proudly reported, "People come from Bridgeport and Shoreham, people come from Ripton, from all over on Saturday mornings to join us."

Colwell noted that despite plummeting winter temperatures, the group has only seen their numbers increase. Though vigils focus heavily on Iraq, the group has maintained its focus on peace and non-violence in all parts of the world.

Colwell explained, "It's hard to miss the fact that the drums of war are beating so loudly right now. Our focus is very much on Iraq. But I'd say that we are looking at a lot of potential for war with North Korea, too. I myself, when I am standing there, I'm trying to think about all the different parts of the world that are erupting into a horrible violent situation."

The Addison County Peace Coalition is firmly committed to peaceful, quiet protests. While participants choose to hold an number of protest signs with slogans such as "Sew seeds of Peace," "No War in My Name," "Let the Inspectors do their Job," "Why War Now?" and "Let's Retaliate With World Peace," Colwell maintained that protesters have no dogma about their presence on the town square. "We are trying to be positive, we are trying to encourage people to mediate, to communicate, to be compassionate. I am pro-peace."

Peter Clark

Demonstrators convene in Montpelier Jan. 18.

Describing the intent of the vigil participants, Colwell said, "When I am standing there, we are not being militant. We are not shouting slogans. We are really there silently as what we call in the Quaker world a 'witness.' We are there to stand publicly and to allow our feelings, our thoughts to be seen by others. It's partly a prayer, it's partly a matter of saying, 'I feel so strongly on this issue that I want everyone in my community to know how I feel.' I am not simply going to say this to my friends or write it in my journal, I am going to state my feelings for anyone who sees me, because this is the strength of how I feel. This is a strong situation that requires a strong, strong response."

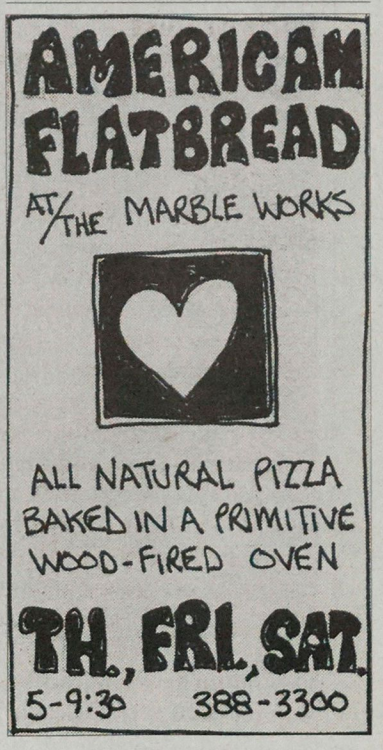
The presence of the protestors in Middlebury has already motivated others to become more politically active and involved in the peace movement. "We get lots and lots of honks. I think that as more people have joined us, more people get the sense that from a group of only six or eight that now we are a growing movement, so people are publicly seeing that more and more people seem to be feeling this way. There is a power to that. It gives people permission to think for themselves and come to their own conclusions about it," said Colwell.

Protestors have not missed a single Saturday since the vigils began and say that they will meet on the town green as long as they have to.

Colwell explained, "I look forward to the day when we don't have to. I think that will only come about when we are not looking constantly at the threat of an outbreak of war. I'm not hopeful that it will be too soon. My fear is that George Bush is a man who is intimidating many countries and that he uses the threat of war in a way which he considers to be politically powerful. And until he stops that, we need to stand and be witnesses to another way to heal conflict."

Peter Clark

Caption...



Feinberg Addresses Compensation Quandary

By CHARLIE GOULDING
Staff Writer

Attorney General John Ashcroft appointed visiting Winter Term Professor Kenneth Feinberg to the position of head of the newly formed Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund in November of 2001, just two months after the attacks on New York and Washington, D.C. Both the fund and Feinberg's position have been controversial.

In fact, the families of seven victims recently filed a lawsuit against Feinberg, accusing him of acting illegally and unfairly. Feinberg's current post as "special master" of this fund was the topic of his lecture given on the evening of Friday, Jan. 24.

Secretary of the College and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis introduced Feinberg, and offered insight into the compelling logic behind Feinberg's appointment. After having graduated from New York University Law School, Feinberg gained recognition politically by serving as Massachusetts Senator Edward M. Kennedy's chief of staff. Feinberg later enjoyed a successful career as a lawyer, and is most famous for his groundbreaking work in the realm of class action lawsuits — specifically those concerning breast implants and Agent Orange. Feinberg's expertise in class action litigation, particularly with respect to devices endangering humanity on a mass scale, made him a sensible choice for head of the fund.

Feinberg divided the content of his speech into three sections: a description of the fund itself, an analysis of the way in which the fund has been received and utilized by the victims thus far and the problems and concerns Feinberg sees with the fund.

The Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund was enacted by Congress to provide support to those directly affected by the attacks. The fund is applicable to any "next-of-kin" to someone who died in the World Trade Center, Pentagon or any of the four airplanes crashes and also applies to anyone physically injured from the attacks resulting in at least a temporary disability. Monetarily, the fund is essentially a blank check from the U.S. Department of The Treasury.

After reviewing applications for participation in the fund, Feinberg must then compute the amount to be allotted to each individual participant. To do so, he takes a fixed number of $250,000 (non-economic loss) and adds it to a rough estimate of what he believes the victim would have earned over the course of a lifetime (economic loss). Feinberg then subtracts from that sum any collateral income generated by the deceased such as the book proceeds of an author. Finally, as a departure from this decidedly formulaic model, Feinberg is allowed to exercise his own discretion.

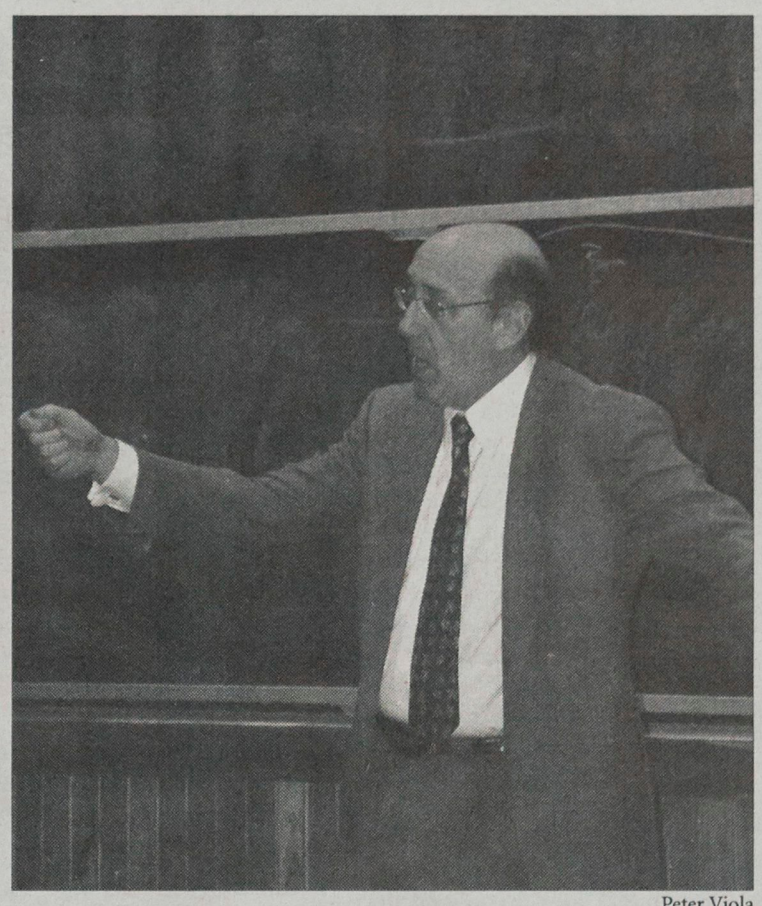
Though the Sept. 11 death count currently stands at just below 2,900, only 1,000 next-of-kin have applied for compensation thus far. Considering Feinberg awards an average of $1.5 million to those participating in the fund, the number of current participants appears strikingly low.

Feinberg attributes this dearth of participation to three things. First, he believes some relations of victims are still too grief stricken to seek compensation. He also thinks that some remain dubious and await the results from other cases before deciding to take action themselves. Lastly, he believes that some people simply plan to wait until the last minute before applying. Feinberg expects a deluge of applications shortly before the Dec. 20, 2003, deadline.

Not all who were affected by Sept. 11 intend on participating in the program. Some will not seek any sort of recompense, while others will choose a wholly different course of action. To date, 61 people have filed lawsuits, bringing litigation against airlines, foreign countries and a slew of other potential sources of culpability.

> The families of seven victims recently filed a lawsuit against Feinberg, accusing him of acting illegally and unfairly.

According to Feinberg, "victims choose to sue when they believe it is the only way to make airlines safe. The other possibility is that they believe bringing litigation is the only way to get at 'the truth,' whatever that may be."



Peter Viola

Kenneth Feinberg outlined some key difficulties of administering the Sept. 11 Victim's Compensation Fund.

Feinberg labeled these potential motives as "spurious," having no desire to mask his own partiality.

Feinberg went on to illustrate the difficulties associated with the fund by providing poignant examples from his work.

To begin, Feinberg is endowed with the impossible task of assessing the life's worth of an individual in economic terms.

Feinberg spoke about allotting more money for a deceased bond trader than for someone with a less lucrative job. He recalled, "I was giving a presentation to a group once when the widow of a fireman gets up and says, 'my husband was a hero. He went into the first building, brought everybody out, and then went into the second building and it collapsed on him. Why should he be getting less than anybody else?' Then, the widow of a bond trader gets up and says, 'A fireman knows the risk he takes in his line of work. My husband was minding his own business when a plane crashed into the building he was working in.' What do you say to that?"

The contentions of both women shed light on the difficulty of Feinberg's task.

A Pandora's box can also lay at the heart of deciding who constitutes the "next-of-kin." When possible, Feinberg molds his decisions of where to direct the money in accordance with state law. All proceeds typically go to the spouse, if living, then the biological parents provided there are no children. Feinberg stated that, "I will always follow the guidelines of a will, if it exists. However only 25 percent of the victims had wills."

One fiancée approached Feinberg with her dilemma. Though she and her fiancée were not married, their wedding was to occur within weeks after the tragedies. Furthermore, the deceased had not spoken to his biological parents in 11 years. Feinberg identified this example as one in which he chose to exercise his personal discretion.

Finally, Feinberg appeared visibly moved by the most fundamental and human aspect of his job — the stories of pain and suffering with which people must come to him each day. One man was unsure of whether to apply for compensation on behalf of one person or two since his wife died while pregnant. Another from the Pentagon suffered 80 percent burns on his body and showed up on Feinberg's doorstep bandaged from head to toe.

Feinberg concluded his speech by posing a question which cut straight to the heart of both the Victim Compensation Fund and the Sept. 11 tragedies themselves.

"Is the program a good idea?" Admirably, the simplicity of the question, as well as its bold objectivity, reflected Feinberg's professorial qualities more so than his obvious skills of persuasion.

Earlier in his lecture, Feinberg alluded to the connection between the fund and Congress' desire to protect the airlines from potentially crippling litigation. A vital aspect of the statute holds that "anyone who decides to enlist [in the fund] waives the right to bring litigation." Congress made it exceedingly unappealing to sue via other clauses in the act as well, including a provision to cap liability in case of a favorable judgment.

On a more fundamental level, Feinberg's inquiry brought into question the philosophical underpinnings of the fund.

(see Winter, page 10)

Paris or Bust

Vlad Lodoaba

Gearing up for a Winter Term journey to Paris, members of the Theater Season class rehearse a series of skits on Jan. 22. They spent a week studying and performing in the French capital.

What About Bob?

By BOB WAINWRIGHT
Columnist

"April is the cruellest month," T. S. Eliot once wrote. Needless to say, Eliot never spent January at Middlebury taking Comps.

Ironically, most Middlebury students have no idea what comps is beyond a word that certain people roam around campus uttering when asked about their J-term. And it doesn't help that most people actually taking comps right now have no idea what it is either. If you don't believe me, just ask one of them the next time you hear someone groaning about not having left the library in 20 days. I guarantee the answer will begin with, "Ummm..."

Perhaps a comps taker may drum out a few terse sentences-something to the effect of, "We basically review all of the important literature ever written in English. And then we get tested on it."

But push the poor kid further, and his logic will inevitably falter.

"You can't possibly review all American literature."

"No, you're wrong, I'm already half-way through."

"No, you're not. You just lied."

"B-b-b-but I..."

"Right now, you're wishing you were good at math in high school, aren't you?"

"Uh-huh."

The ultimate irony of Comps is that, like Fox's Joe Millionaire, in which Joe most certainly *is* rich, thereby making the viewer the butt of a grand hoax, people taking Comps always manage to convince themselves that reviewing every last bit of consequential literature is possible in 25 days. But how do the masterminds behind Comps manage to pull off this grand deception every year? It's simple. Their secret is self-contained. Because no one in their right mind is ever going to admit to freaking out for an entire month, musing over the concepts of nature, community, death and eternity, only to realize that all that Comps really entails is telling two professors who you think will win the Academy Award for best actor.

So that, my friends, is why I myself have not reviewed a single text this January besides the menu to Panda House. Like Trista from ABC's The Bachelorette, I know what's going to happen even if everyone else is clueless.

My proof lies in the very texts, which are supposedly required of me. For instance, Wordsworth writes, "Up! Up! My Friend, and quit your books; Or surely you'll grow double." And in "Nature," Emerson writes, "To the body and mind which have been cramped by noxious work or company, nature is medicinal and restores their tone." Clearly, by telling us to read and understand such authors, the Powers That Be are secretly telling us to stop reading and go skiing!

You probably think I'm ludicrous. But come Friday, I'll be the one laughing, because the secret of Comps lies in a single answer, and it's Daniel Day-Lewis of *Gangs of New York.*

Musings and Mishaps

By LINDSEY WHITTON
News Editor

In the winter during high school, my friend Libby would often nap for a few hours a day. This was a strange occurrence in the context of our structured, boarding school life, where every moment was programmed and nobody had anytime for themselves. We were surprised at her sleep schedule, and she was surprised at our surprise.

We lived on the same hall, and I would stop by to rouse her for class, dinner, assembly or co-curricular activities, but she would create convincing excuses — mumbling that her coach had said to skip practice, her teacher had canceled Latin or that the health center nurses had sent her back to her room to recover. Hours later, when she arose, she wouldn't remember our conversation.

Eventually, Libby was diagnosed with Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a condition with symptoms that include general lethargy, sadness, increase or loss of appetite, lack of motivation and the urge to sleep constantly. Doctors and researchers attribute SAD to lack of sunlight, explaining why symptoms usually appear in the fall, peak during the winter and subside in the spring. Some people, however, who work or live in rooms with no windows, experience similar symptoms throughout the year.

During a Middlebury winter, people are at risk of suffering from SAD due to the lack of daylight, and this winter the record breaking cold temperatures may increase the risk by forcing people indoors. Although 70 to 80 percent of the estimated 10 million Americans SAD suffers are women, many of them over the age of 30, there is an even greater number of people who suffer from the "Winter Blues," a milder but similar condition.

While light therapy and anti-depression medication can effectively battle the blues, most doctors agree that the ideal treatment is an hour of sunlight a day, especially when combined with exercise. The Middlebury environment provides outlets for outdoor winter exercise ranging from skiing to simply walking to class. Such solutions are easier to preach then practice, however — I know that I have no desire to walk around when it is 20 degrees outside, let alone ski for five hours, and I don't even have SAD decreasing my motivation.

But as for Libby, she made it through boarding school, doing much better than those of us who went to all of the required activities in the winter, and she is now sleeping happily through cold winter afternoons at Yale.

Dishwashing Project Tackles Stratification

By ALISON DAMICK
Staff Writer

A seemingly endless line of students wait to slide their dinner trays onto the revolving carousel and escape into the night. What often goes unrecognized, however, is that for some members of the college community, the dining process does not end so simply as a quick drop-off of dishes and a dash between the milling, laughing groups out the door. The kitchen staff works behind the scenes, cleaning mountains of dishes and disposing of heaps of waste after every meal.

Last year, however, a few students did notice, and decided that it was time to make the campus more aware of the everyday commitment of College employees. With their concern, the Middlebury Dishwashing Project began.

Leda Smith '02 and Oren Frey '02, conceived the Dishwashing Project last year by organizing groups of students, faculty and staff to work for one night in dining hall dish rooms. According to the information sheets posted for the public in all dining halls, the purpose of the program is to "build a better, less stratified, more respectful Middlebury College community, show appreciation for those who make Middlebury the place it is, learn about what it's like to make our school run smoothly on a day-to-day basis, [and] give back to and take ownership of the place in which we live and work." It goes on to encourage members of the college community to "meet new people, see how much food we waste, have fun!"

Lauren Ziegler '05 and Caitlin Prentice '05 run the Dishwashing Project. Prentice signed up and worked one night last year and enjoyed the experience so much that when Smith and Frey were in search of successors, she decided to take the job. Her motivation for the project, she says, is her father. "In the community where I grew up, my dad was a local celebrity," she explains. "My dad is highly respected in his community. My dad is also a custodian."

When she arrived at Middlebury, Prentice was shocked to see the lack of respect, and often complete indifference, towards members of the custodial staff.

"I had no idea that in other communities the roles of custodian, cafeteria worker, bus driver, etc. are so looked down upon," she continued.

"This was incredibly sad to me, that there was so little interaction, let alone respect, between students, faculty, and staff, especially because I knew that it could be so different. So that's what I like about the Dishwashing Project — I think it has the potential to break down the ignorance and disrespect I see all around me."

Prentice and Ziegler organize groups of student and faculty dishwashers from an e-mail list compiled from those who signed up to work last year. The Dishwashing Project took to the dining halls every Wednesday during Winter Term.

Its focus has been on getting clubs and teams to wash together, thus attracting people who may have been less inclined to volunteer independently.

The most recent workers have included the women's tennis team, the Mountain Club, Xenia House, WRMC, MIX and Middlebury Initiative for Sustainable Development (MISD). The Dishwashing Project hopes to have even more student groups involved in the spring when it expands the project into more dining halls. They hope to wash every other Thursday. The inclusion of more professors is another goal for the Spring Term. Visiting Scholar in Environmental Studies William McKibben will be washing with his Winter Term class, "Sustainable Food Production," this Wednesday, and Prentice and Ziegler are currently trying to line up spring first-year seminars to volunteer collectively as well.

The ambition for a more respectful and aware campus does not end, however, with the Dishwashing Project. Prentice and Ziegler are investigating the possibility of a Campus Citizenship Requirement.

So far, their former supervisor Frey has authored a report on the idea that is currently being distributed to deans, trustees and other members of the administration.

While they are hopeful that this requirement will be put into effect on campus, for the moment they are focused on increasing involvement in the Dishwashing Project.

Individual and group volunteers are welcome to sign up and learn a valuable, if soapy, lesson about the maintenance of the Middlebury lifestyle.

Schuyler Van Horn

Winston "Wink" Leno is just one of many Middining Staff working behind the scenes. The Middlebury Dishwashing Project gathers volunteers to step in for a night, giving the regular employees a paid night off.

Schuyler Van Horn

Students slide their trays onto the carousel, often not thinking about the dishwashing happening on the other side. The Dishwashing Project aims to raise awareness of the unseen work of College employees.

Winter Term Professor Assesses Fund

(continued from page 9)

"I got an e-mail from a victim of the Oklahoma City bombing asking: 'Dear Mr. Feinberg, my son died at Oklahoma City. Why don't I get money?' 'African Embassy bombing, Why not me?... What is it that's so special about Sept. 11 that justifies this unprecedented response?"

When questioned this fundamental issue, Feinberg affirmed his support of the fund. "I think it's wise ... there's a historical vein in this country. Call it compassion, call it an expression of solidarity, that makes this fund possible ... There's also something uniquely American about [it]. Something like this could only take place in America."

Feinberg also speculated that the very uniqueness of Sept. 11 could justify Congress' response to it.

Audience response to Feinberg's speech seemed far less critical than the recent piece on him in the Nov. 25 issue of *The New Yorker*, to which Feinberg alluded when he began his lecture.

Indeed, Feinberg achieved a commanding sense of empathy with his audience, largely through his use of poignant illustrations and examples. Furthermore, Feinberg's use of stories and examples subtly evoked the all-too-simple reality that he has been appointed to perform a job. "'Dear Mr. Feinberg, my son died in the first World Trade Center bombing, in 1993; why not me?'"

The question points our gaze not only in the direction of the irrationality the incomprehensible humanity of the issue- but also at the person whose job it is to deal with it. "What do you say to that?" Feinberg kept repeating.

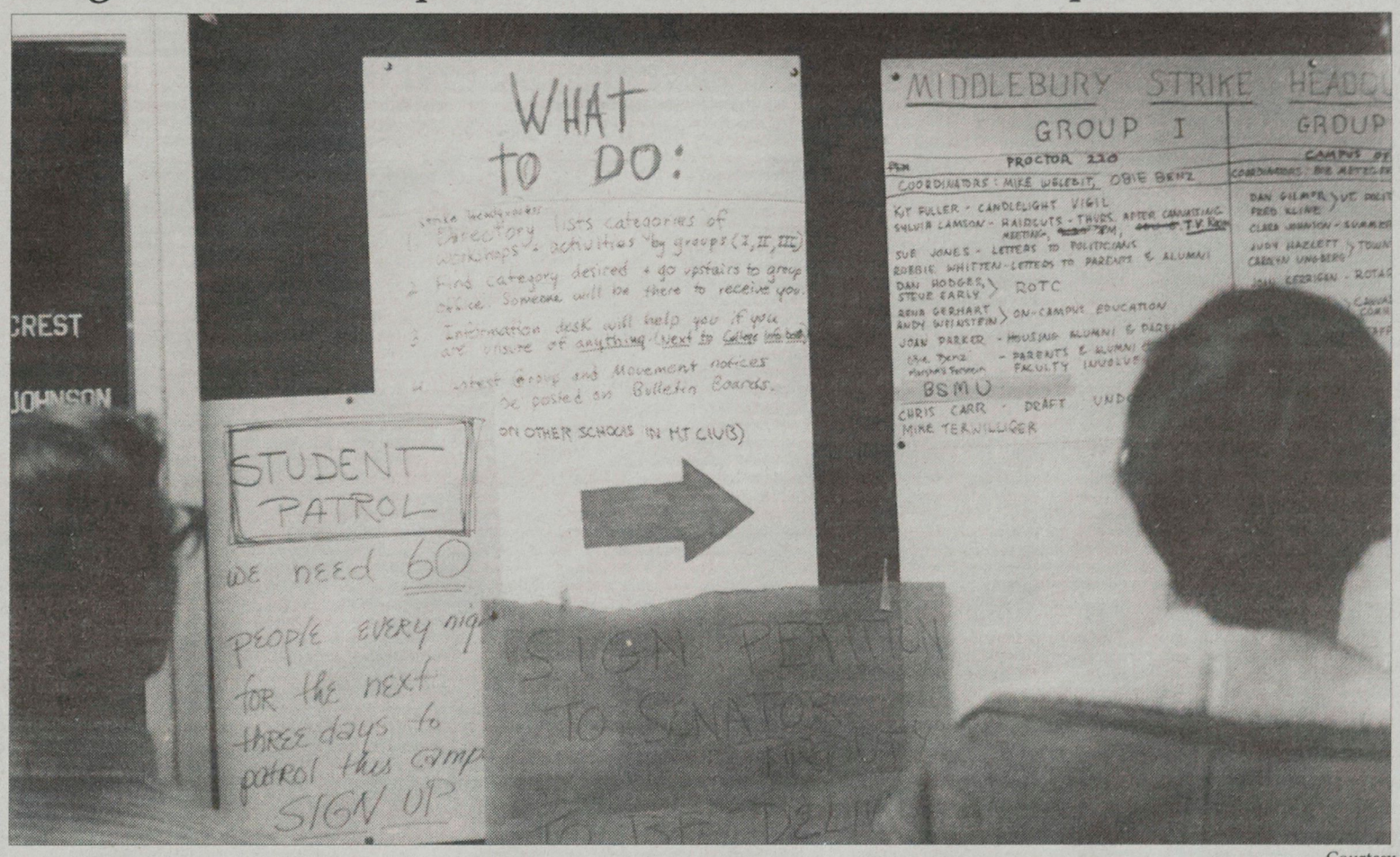
Feinberg posed one final question about the merit of issuing variable rewards.

When asked what changes he would suggest to Congress, Feinberg asserted that he would eliminate the variance in awards and compensate each person equally.

Middlebury College and the Military Draft

A Looming War with Iraq Revives Discussion of Conscription

By CAROLINE STAUFFER
Features Editor



Courtesy

Middlebury College students participated in a "strike committee" in May 1970 to voice opposition for the U.S. invasion of Cambodia. They were also protesting the widely-publicized incident at Kent State, which saw students shot by members of the National Guard. The current military buildup in Iraq has reawakened the activist spirit at colleges and universities throughout the country.

If the United States were to engage in war with Iraq, it would be the first time in history that the United States has entered a conflict of a size comparable to World War II or Vietnam without a draft. However, on Jan. 7, U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel (D–N.Y.) introduced a bill to the House of Representatives to reinstate the draft and establish "Universal National Service."

Rangel has previously voted against invading Iraq, and said, "that if those calling for war knew that their children were likely to be required to serve... there would be more caution and a greater willingness to work with the international community in dealing with Iraq," in an article from the Center on Conscience and War. According to Rangel, only one member of Congress has a child in the military's enlisted ranks, and the draft would "level the playing field."

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has spoken openly against reinstating the draft, which proved so unpopular during the Vietnam conflict that it was abolished in 1973.

According to an article by Mark Shields from CNN.com, Rumsfeld believes that the country's all-volunteer military is adequate for the potential conflict.

After graduating from Princeton in 1954, Rumsfeld responded to his draft call by serving three years on active duty as a Navy aviator. In that year, two out of every three of his classmates went into the military.

> A Middlebury College history professors dismisses the possibility of reinstating the draft; "I do not see many in congress wanting to debate a draft," said Fletcher D. Proctor Professor of American History Travis Jacobs.

A grand total of two members of the Princeton class of 2001 became officers in the military.

A Middlebury College history professor dismissed the possibility of reinstating the draft. "I do not see many in Congress wanting to debate a draft," said Fletcher D. Proctor Professor of American History Travis Jacobs.

While many believe Rangel proposed his bill with no intention of it passing, he has successfully ignited discussion on who will fight the proposed war.

"Rep. Rangel's bill to reinstate the draft was introduced knowing full well that it would never pass, but it should be sent as a sign that young people today are not immune from the world's conflicts and the decisions that this nation's leaders make," said Ben LaBolt '03, President of the College Democrats.

"It's about time they get their act in gear and start voting to protect their interests before they are shipped off to a war they don't believe is just or necessary," LaBolt continued.

If a draft were reinstated, it would not be the first time Middlebury College students were called to serve in the military. Students at the Collegehave reacted strongly to the last two major conflicts the U.S. was involved in.

According to David M. Stameshkin's book, "The Strength of the Hills," in September 1942 the male enrollment at the College was 352. By May of the same academic year, the male enrollment had dropped to 74 and the U.S. Navy had a year-round V-12 officer-training unit on campus.

In 1952 the army established a Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program at the College. Then President Samuel Somerville Stratton believed an ROTC program at Middlebury would stabilize enrollment during the Korean War.

Between 1952 and 1969 Middlebury produced 623 commissioned officers. By the 1960s, however, students were expressing disapproval of the program.

"Certainly [the ROTC program's] relevance to a war rooted in an irrational and vicious foreign policy should make startlingly clear the need to define the relationship of the College to an organization which implements that foreign policy," stated *The Middlebury Campus* editorial on Mar. 7, 1966.

> In October of 1967, three Middlebury students were arrested for demostrating against the Vietnam War.

The ROTC program began operating on a volunteer basis in 1966, and was discontinued due to lack of interest in 1976.

Courtesy

Students gathered to discuss protest action during the Vietnam War era. This time period is recognized as one of the most politically active in the history of Middlebury College. Representative Charles Rangel's (D-N.Y.) recent proposal to reinstate the draft for the Iraqi conflict has ignited discussion once again.

Opposition to the ROTC movement coincided with a particularly active time for students, the late 60s. This was a time when students across the nation were rallying against the draft and the war in Southeast Asia.

In October of 1967, three Middlebury students were arrested at the Pentagon in Arlington, Va, for demonstrating against the Vietnam War after a deadline set by a Washington issued permit.

Eric Kolvig, Andrew Weinstein and Lassie Dudley were part of an all-Saturday-night vigil with other Middlebury students, but chose to continue protesting on Sunday. The three were fined and released the next day.

Protests against the draft reached a height at Middlebury College during 1970, after the United States invaded Cambodia and National Guard members killed four Kent State University students.

Protests at Middlebury College took place on the evening of May 5 in reaction to these events.

In response to a petition and the protests, the College Council voted to suspend normal activities from May 5 to May 11.

Students and faculty formed a "strike committee" to align the College with protest movements across the nation.

A few weeks after the strike, an ROTC classroom was vandalized.

Middlebury students participated in May Day demonstrations in Washington in 1951.

The focus at Middlebury during the Vietnam War seemed to be on protesting the war effort, but an unknown number, most likely small, went to war.

Four students and alums, including Alton Bassett '53, Richard Rosbeck '61, John Rossler '66 and A. Bayard Russ '66 are recognized as Vietnam War casualties according to "The College on the Hill."

Although Congress is not ready to reinstate the draft, Rangel's proposal has served as a reminder to the Middlebury College community that as in the past, students are vulnerable to the repercussion of international conflicts.

Living the Veggie Life, Only Dining Hall Style

By NATHANIEL MARCUS
Staff Writer

How many Middlebury students are vegetarians?

There is currently no system or formula to answer this question. One of the obstacles to tracking the trend is that some students may choose to become vegetarians for a week, a month or a year at a time.

Another problem is that vegetarianism has many different definitions.

In a random sample study, The Middlebury Campus polled 353 students in Proctor, Ross and The Grille. Of those polled, 12 students said they do not eat red meat, 10 said they do not eat any animal meat at all, four identified themselves as "pescatarians" (they eat only fish) and none said they were vegans (eating no animal byproducts, including eggs, cheese or milk).

This poll does not take into account those who used to be vegetarians but are not currently.

When asked the number one reason why they chose not to eat meat, one of the students responded it was due to a connection to animals.

Three explained it was because they don't like meat, five cited health reasons, six because of the harsh treatment of animals in farm factories, four out of respect for the environment or for economic reasons; one because of a diet; one student cited religious beliefs; and two students did not eat meat simply out of habit.

"College is a great medium for experimentation for different things," affirms Peter Napolitano, director of Dining Services at Middlebury College. "Vegetarianism is one of them."

Many students who become vegetarians may have started in college. Luckily, as Napolitano believes, it is easier to experiment with vegetarianism at Middlebury than at other schools, such as Dartmouth for example, where students do not have a comprehensive meal plan.

At Dartmouth, students have to be wary of their "declining balance" and are often compelled to choose the most economical option, which may not always be vegetarian. At Middlebury, students have the advantage of choosing any meal without worrying about the cost.

Napolitano doesn't see a trend for either more or less vegetarians on campus during the past two years. His "guess in the dark" is that eight to 10 percent of students might be vegetarians.

"But from what I've observed," says Napolitano, "based on interviews, comment cards and student surveys, vegetarian women probably outnumber vegetarian men on campus, four to one."

Members of the Dining Committee, meanwhile, think perhaps a third of Middlebury students are vegetarians.

They agree it is a "significant portion" but not a majority.

Vegetarianism has evolved at Middlebury over the years. In the late 1970s, Cook was all-vegetarian; now, vegetarian meals are included in the menu at each dining hall. Back then, admits Charlie Sargent, purchaser for Dining Services, "we didn't know what a soybean was. Now there is a lot more variety for vegetarians than before." He believes up to 40 percent of Middlebury students are vegetarian, "But it's hard to tell."

Sargent is currently working with Anything's Pastable of Burlington to make up vegan entrees for the school, which debut this week. "We try to spice it up as much as we can," says Napolitano, "for instance, soups, vegetarian chili." "Vegetarians don't want something that looks like meat," believes Sargent.

What are those things that vegetarians are eating? There are several meat substitutes dining services use that for the most part take on the properties of the food it is cooked with.

> Vegetarianism has evolved at Middlebury over the years. In the late 1970's, Cook was all vegetarian: now, vegetarian meals have been included in each dining hall.

Seitan is made from pressed-wheat gluten; it is high in protein and low in fat. Tofu is soybean curd, and is also high in protein. Tempeh is made from fermented soybeans and is mixed with grains; it is high in complete protein, low on saturated fat and is a good source of dietary fiber.

While it's easy to experiment eating vegetarian, students should keep in mind there's more to it than simply not eating meat. Meat provides certain vitamins and minerals that you have to work on getting elsewhere.

As Heather Tory, senior and life-long vegetarian, warns: "You'll get sick if you just eat cheese pizza.

Green leafy vegetables have so many minerals."

Mary Anne Kyburz-Ladue, the College's nutritionist, says it is important that students realize what they're taking out of their diet.

"A lot of vegetarians come through my office," she says. Her guess: perhaps 25 to 30 percent of college students nationwide are vegetarians to some degree.

She is mostly concerned for vegans, who do not eat any dairy products, but believes that vegans can develop a healthy diet if they eat right.

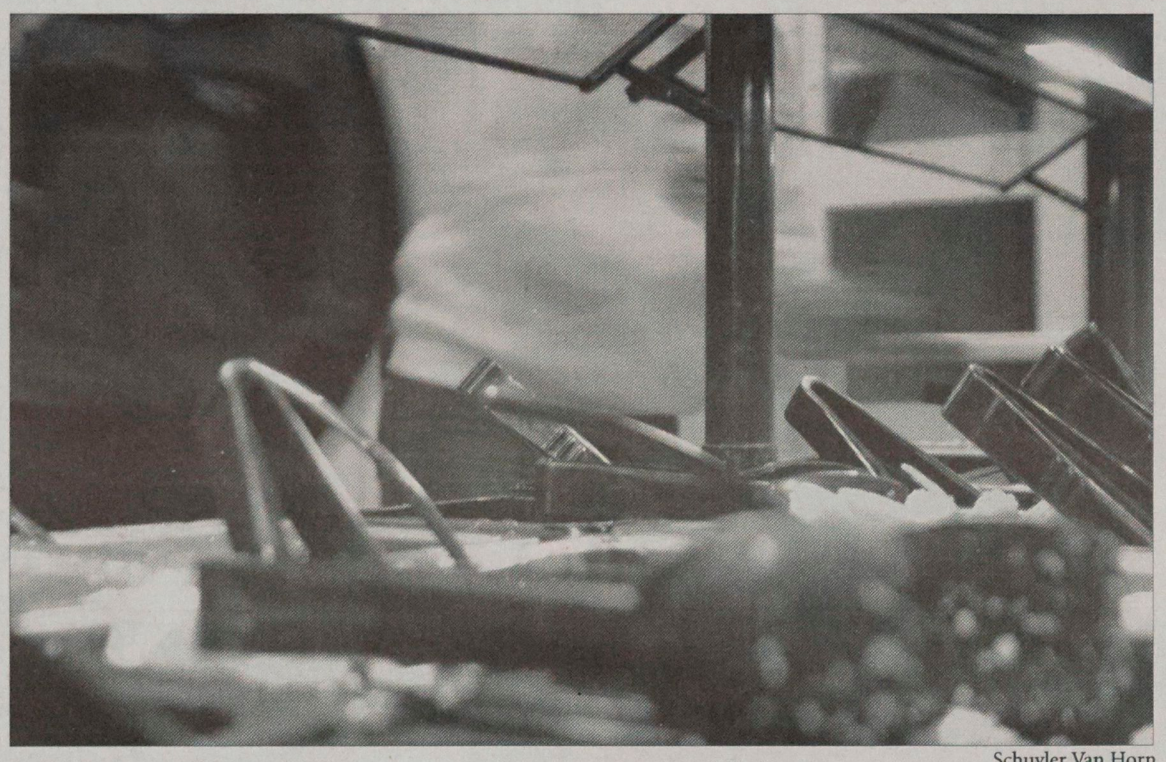
Vitamin supplements, she warns, don't make up for nutrients from food. She recommends students make an appointment with her through the Center of Counseling and Human Relations in Carr Hall if they are thinking about starting to eat vegetarian "or if you just want to know if you're doing it right."

Despite the added attention to their diet, students who have gone vegetarian often have strong convictions to back up their effort.

Julia West '06 explains her decision: "If everyone became a vegetarian, it would solve many of the environmental problems that are rapidly arising."

Another student adds: "When I treat other living beings with respect, I have so much more respect for myself."

Further facts about vegetarianism are available at the Health Center.



Schuyler Van Horn

Dining Sevices caters to a spectrum of student dietary habits, with vegetarianism topping the list.

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Editorial

A Worried State of the Union

In Tuesday evening's State of the Union address, President Bush solidified the compassionate conservatism that he touted during his run for election in 2000. He proposed using the federal budget to fund the development of hydrogen automobiles, while advocating mentor programs for dispossessed youth and the children of criminals. He also put forth sweeping plans to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa. We look forward to seeing the fruits of the president's labor on these "compassionate conservative" fronts, especially in the fight against a disease that threatens the decimation of a continent, the disruption of global security and, here in the United States, one that disproportionately afflicts youth and minorities.

Yet Bush once again beat the war drums, affirming that he is ready to force Saddam Hussein to disarm. He indicated that this nation is on the brink of war and he referred to a willingness to go alone in this venture.

This month, Middlebury students traveled to Montpelier and Washington to protest a possible war. In the town of Middlebury, demonstrations have been a mainstay on the town green on Saturday mornings since Sept. 11. Americans are clearly questioning the merits of the president's policy. Bush must be forthcoming and acknowledge the potentially grave consequences of this war: economic disruption, an inferno in the Middle East, the loss of life in Iraq, and, yes, the loss of life at home. The potential for terror reprisals on American soil is real.

We await a compelling case for why action is unavoidable and believe that the president must not act alone. Doing so would only feed more vehement anti-Americanism that our generation will be forced to confront for decades to come. A war to make us more secure may only make us more vulnerable.

The College's Estimable Model of Sustainability

Once again, Middlebury is making headlines with its environmental initiatives. Recently the College announced a deal with Island Pond Woodworkers for the use of sustainably-harvested wood in the new library. This month, too, the College was featured in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* with the journal focusing on Middlebury's purchase of environmentally-friendly furniture for the Ross Woodstove Lounge manufactured by Beeken Parsons furniture in Shelburne.

Middlebury has shown that business development and environmental protection are not mutually exclusive. Moreover, the College's green investments have helped businesses in Vermont. This happy marriage of environmentalism, investment and support for the local economy has encouraged alumni giving and it is one that should be held up to a national audience as something worthy of emulation.

The Bush administration has shown that economic development and environmental conciousness are rarely compatible. A mainstay of the president's domestic agenda has been the weakening of environmental legislation and protections for the benefit of industry. Just last week, the Republican-dominated Senate endorsed legislation that will open millions of acres in the Tongass National Forest, the temperate rainforest that spans the southeast Alaska coast, to wanton logging. This flurry of anti-environment activity in Washington stems from the mindset that development takes precedence to environmental considerations.

Middlebury's recent initiatives are, however, in tune with the president's promotion of economic development. More importantly, however, they are instructive to the Bush administration, if Washington would pay attention. Development does not have to go in tandem with the repudiation of the environment. The College should continue to lead on "Smart Growth" and sustainability fronts. These efforts are inspiring in these otherwise meager times for the American environmental movement.

The Middlebury Campus

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A Recurring Nightmare

Committee Replaces Student Lounges With Feb Housing

-Michael Stahler '03-

On Wednesday night, I had a nightmare involving Hepburn Hall, in which I'm a Residential Advisor (RA). It began with a voicemail from my commons residential advisor saying, "they have closed our lounges." It also included the sight of one of my residents trying to get into the lounge to watch the TV and finding a locked door.

Two out of three public lounges in Hepburn have been closed to make rooms for incoming Febs.

All this was done without advanced notice and contradicts the promise that Provost Tim Spears and then-Housing Coordinator Hikaru Kozuma made to the Hepburn Community in 2001. After some calls, we learned that the Planning and Enrollment Committee made the decision. I hope that its members are reading this piece.

My nightmare continued. After eating lunch at LaForce, I passed the fireplace lounge, almost always locked, a fitness room, and several lounges as well as some other empty spaces.

I returned to Hepburn and opened my e-mail to find messages from my residents saying how "egregious" this was, "how bad Brainerd housing" will be without the lounges, and how "this is an important [and the only] meeting place for me and my friends."

Here people cook or watched TV—important since "students don't have access to cable" in their rooms.

The whole sight made me nauseous. I have faith in our commons system, that's why I chose to be an RA.

I really enjoy living with the people in my community, that's why I stayed in Brainerd.

We have been working hard to create community, but is seems that the college advertises a phenomenal quality of life on the one hand while eroding ours on the other.

A granite fireplace and a fitness room are great for Ross, but we would just like to have a TV lounge that is clean, accessible, and safe.

We want the Administration to deliver its promise not to remove our lounges or compromise our community standards. A perceived housing inequity already exists on campus and if this is implemented, it will lead to more inequity and a more divided college community.

Other Halls are losing their lounges. Hepburn, by losing two out of three lounges, is impacted disproportionately.

Hadley and Gifford are each losing five, but each had roughly ten originally.

> Hepburn cannot lose our public space. The loss will compromise our quality of life. 167 residents of the hall are now left with one public lounge with a single TV.

Hepburn cannot lose our public space. The loss will compromise our quality of life. 167 residents of the hall are now left with one public lounge with a single TV.

This basement space is often dirty, vandalized, and where janitors have found strangers sleeping. Without the second floor lounge, residents who want to cook are left to one old kitchen with a single refrigerator.

> In fact, the dream of having interesting people in small, friendly, cooperative communities learning from one another was a reality and once again can be something that Hepburn residents wake up to find.

If the Residential Life staff opts to have a hall event, we will have to compete with student organizations to use our own first floor lounge that is so busy that our residents feel shamed just entering to use the vending machines let alone sit in the comfy chairs.

It is also important to consider the Febs who will be led to their rooms to hear, "This was the TV lounge."

As a member of the Feb class, I know the difficulty of coming here in the spring, but I can't imagine how I would feel knowing that I might have taken this space from my neighbors. Is this burden fair to incoming students?

Taken as a whole, is this what we as a Residential Life staff want to deliver for a quality of life? Is this what we as a College value?

I want to conclude with an open hand, not a closed fist. We don't want to return to the past—we need to look forward.

Again we made an offer, this time to Dean of Enrollment Planning Michael Schoenfeld, Residential Systems Coordinator Mariah McKechnie, and other interested administrators to come over and visit with us.

On Tuesday, Dean Schoenfeld came and got a sense of how difficult this is on our community here in Hepburn.

The residents of this dorm play many roles in the Middlebury community.

Even though Hepburn may not be as structurally as suave as other residence halls, the people who live here are as sophisticated as Middlebury College students can be.

For like everyone else, we contribute to the College and should have housing that is at least comparable.

This is what the system is supposed to guarantee.

It was mentioned at the President's Open Forum that there was a priority list of which lounges should be returned and I hope that I have effectively made the case why Hepburn should be at the top of that list.

This shouldn't be a nightmare.

In fact, the dream of having interesting people in small, friendly, cooperative communities learning from one another was reality and once again can be something that Hepburn residents wake up to find.

After all, isn't this in essence what the commons system and indeed, Middlebury College, is all about?

Michael Stahler is a political science major from Lyndonville, Vt. He is an RA in Hepburn Hall.

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The Middle Ground Confirms That Bush is Beatable

-Fahim Ahmed '03-

As President Bush prepares his State of the Union address to outline the policies for the second half of his tenure, he must confront a solemn but distinct possibility: that he is indeed beatable in the 2004 presidential election.

Despite the fact that no single Democrat has yet emerged as the clear front-runner for the party ticket, President Bush's reelection hopes will hinge on his performance at home and abroad.

> Early indications are already apparent, as the president's approval ratings this month have dropped below 60 percent for the first time since Sept. 11. Furthermore, only 48 percent approve of the president's handling of the economy.

Whereas historically, the Republican Party has rallied around a candidate early into the run-up to the elections, more often than not, the candidate ultimately winning the Democratic ticket has invariably been one that had picked up the momentum later during the primaries.

It is that positive momentum, coupled with his own mixed performance in office that may vote Bush out of the White House in 2004.

The state of the economy has traditionally played a determining role in shaping the outcome of the elections.

Several studies have found a positive correlation between the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the economy and the reelection prospects of the incumbent.

Arguably, the economy has been, both in the distant and recent past, the most significant factor in the election.

Clearly, that does not bode well for President Bush.

Early indications are already apparent, as the president's approval ratings this month have dropped below 60 percent for the first time since Sept. 11.

Furthermore, only 48 percent in a recent poll approve of President Bush's handling of the economy. and 43 percent support his federal budget policies.

The president's most recent tax-cut plan, worth $670 billion, has drawn further criticism as benefiting only a small minority of higher-income taxpayers.

Also, his proposal to cut dividend taxes is unlikely to draw investors back into a market weakened by the stuttering economy and corporate malfeasance.

In fact, what has been drawing investors away from the market is the Bush administration's posturing on an impending war on Iraq. President Bush and his foreign policy advisers have increasingly been taking a more hawkish stance on Iraq.

While most Americans are in favor of a multilateral strike against Iraq, with the backing of the United Nations, fewer are willing to support unilateral military action.

The administration, however, has made it clear that the U.S. is prepared to act alone, and that it is unwilling to accept 'multilateralism as an excuse for inaction.'

The Bush administration's current focus on Iraq comes at the cost of endangering its own national security interests.

Critics, Democrats included, have pointed out that whereas Iraq does not possess a missile delivery system, North Korea does. North Korea is also less willing to comply with the international inspection process.

Further, the recent Al-Qaeda attacks in Bali, and Mombasa, Kenya, demonstrates that the war on terrorism is far from over. The administration's leadership in nation-building in Afghanistan has also come under criticism and the central Asian nation remains tenuously poised between unrest and stability.

Therefore, as the Democrats consider their presidential hopefuls, the Party may find significant rallying points in the economy, the war on Iraq, and U.S. national security interests to vote a popular incumbent out of the White House.

Bush is beatable.

War Objector Implores Patience

-Wellington Lyons '04-

So we're going to war again.

Whether you're on the right, left or center of the political spectrum, there are a number of reasons to be upset with our leaders for what they have gotten us into.

Let's start at the beginning. Why are we preparing to invade Iraq? The story goes that Saddam Hussein has been attempting to rebuild his arsenal of unconventional weapons. So why do we care? The CIA estimates that North Korea has just recently developed as many as three nuclear weapons, but we're not about to bomb Pyongyang back to the stone age. So what makes Iraq special?

We are being told that we must invade Iraq for our own safety, and that if we don't do it now, Iraq will shortly develop weapons of mass destruction and use them to hold the free world hostage. That's a scary thought, I'll admit.

But much to the Bush administration's dismay, this scenario is not reality. Dubya's causus belli rapidly falls apart upon a cursory glance. Say Iraq does develop nuclear capabilities. Does anyone really think that the Iraqis hate America so much that they're willing to sacrifice everything, literally everything, just so they can go down in the history books as having the dubious reputation of being the nation that decreased our population by a few percentage points? Saddam Hussein may be ruthless, but he's not suicidal. His destruction would be assured were he even to think about launching an attack against America.

If the president is truly concerned with protecting the safety of the American people, which is what this weapons of mass destruction debate is really all about, then he should give the inspectors as much time as they need to finish the job. Patience is what was requested from the international community at the conclusion of the UN report that was handed in today, and patience is what the rest of the world is demanding.

Wellington Lyons joined thousands recently in Washington to protest the planned invasion of Iraq.

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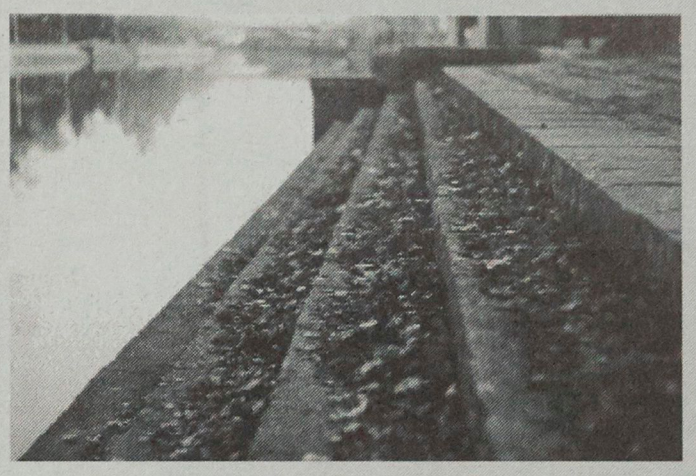

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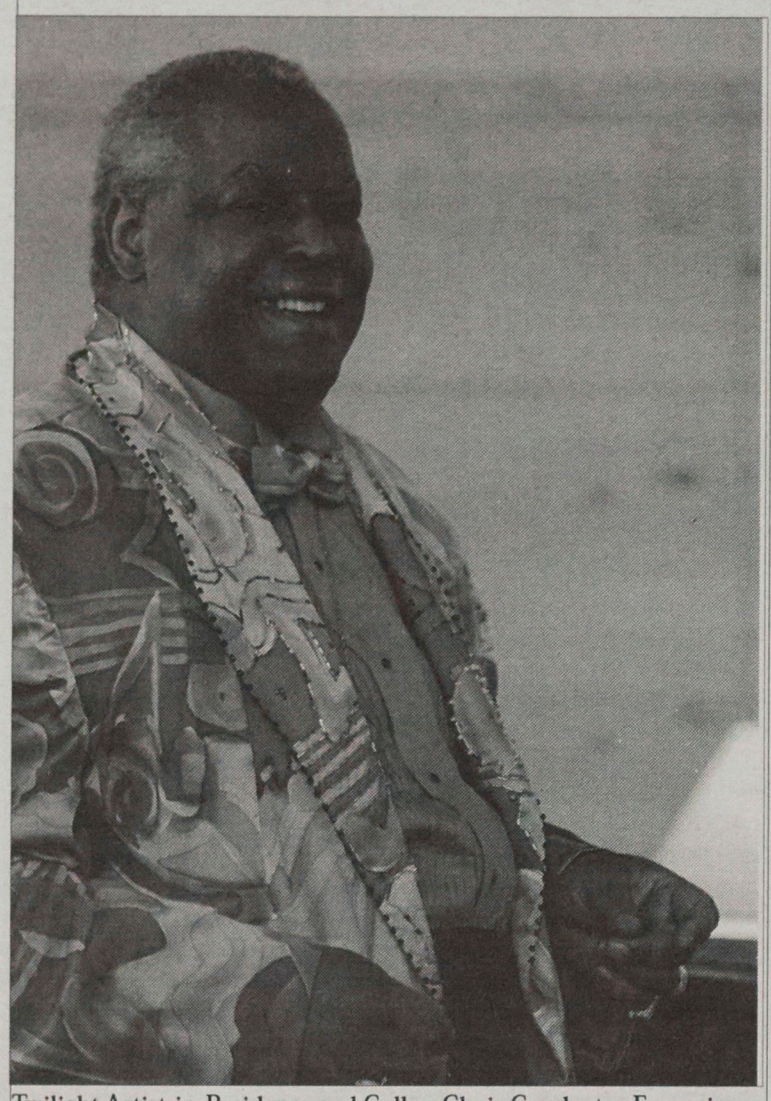
Francois Clemmons Delivers Concert in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr.



Twilight Artist-in-Residence and CollegeChoir Conductor Francois Clemmons paid homage to Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in a concert at Mead Chapel on Fri., Jan. 17 entitled "Songs of Triumph." Clemmons, garbed in a black sequined robe and a red sequined wrap, delivered a most beautiful array of authentic Negro spirituals, which portray a yearning for liberation. Included in the repetoire were "Precious Lord, Take My Hand," "Ain't-a-dat Good News!" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot." His deep voice invited the audience to stand, sing and clap, engaging in a true, moving tribute to Dr. King. As he explained, these events "will evoke the enduring spirit of the civil rights leader." Townspeople, students and faculty participated in his interactive performance by joining him onstage by the end of the evening. Behind Clemmons stood a lone frame of Martin Luther King, Jr., illuminated by a single candle. Lacing the performance with background on King, examples of racism and persecution and quotations from King, Clemmons created both a somber and yet uplifting atmosphere.

The Cuba Project Challenges Audience to Question Truth

By ALEXANDRA HAY
Staff Writer

Stripes of light shine on the pale golden stage, a grotesque mask sits on a pole upstage left — a hideously distorted papier-mache` image of a man's face, or a monster's. A Cuban song plays softly, the woman's voice full and rich. The first dance in Artist-in-Residence Amy Chavasse's Cuba Project dance performance, "The Fruit Axiom," is about to begin. A companion piece to her earlier work, "Death, Beauty, and Flying," "The Fruit Axiom" was inspired by the late Cuban author Reinaldo Arenas' novel, "Farewell to the Sea."

At first the interpretation seems almost too literal — the dancers hold hands and rush towards and away from the audience, echoing the sounds of crashing waves that flood the theater. Then the dance shifts, as the dancers speak one after another, using text drawn from both Arenas' book and Chavasse's own inspiration. They relentlessly describe the ocean in hauntingly detached voices, "glittering, black, deep, black, echoing, blue, immense." The sound of the ocean shifts into an evocative melody that blends into a soft piano section. The music, however, remains a backdrop to the dance itself, a framework within which the dancers create texture and meaning.

Described as "a long, rambling, hallucinatory exposition,""Farewell to the Sea" centers on a husband and wife at the seashore. The tension between their grating, strained relationship and the beautiful imagery of their physical setting emerges. This disturbing juxtaposition seems to have fueled Chavasse's piece, "The Fruit Axiom." The dancers evoke the internal sensations of the novel as their distant, detached faces stare out at a plane of existence more spiritual than corporal. Solos, trios and full company sections flow by in sweeping, off-balance gestures, periodically interrupted as a dancer shakes or jerks, trying to reinhabit a physical reality but never fully succeeding.

Text scattered throughout the piece draws the audience even further into this world, coaxing laughter as one dancer, resting her hands on her knees, challenges the audience: "This is not some new form of transportation," she says, "you won't be going anywhere." She continued, "This is not real fruit; the taste will disappoint you." Chavasse describes her choice of title, "The Fruit Axiom," as an attempt to capture the "dark underside and layers of subterfuge," which permeate Arenas' work. "You expect fruit to taste wonderful, but what if it's rotten inside?"

> The dancers seem to reach repeatedly upward, straining towards something higher, before falling back down to a world of regret...

An axiom being something that is accepted as universally true, "The Fruit Axiom," challenges the audience to look for the dark layer of trick beneath the truth. The Cuba Project traces its origins to the early 90s when Chavasse first started choreographing a duet that eventually grew into "Death, Beauty and Flying." It was influenced by her experiences in the early 80s when she was working in New York City and living with Juan Gonzalez, a Cuban painter who was HIV positive and later died of AIDS.

Her time in New York was a combination of "the most wonderful and terrifying things," as she danced professionally, faced her mother's death, and saw Gonzalez deal with his mortality, painting graceful scenes of "life, death and redemption."

When she started work on "Death, Beauty, and Flying" shortly after his death, she says her inspiration came from "his work, him, and my time with him it was a full and rich time for me."

Reflecting this, "Death, Beauty, and Flying" begins with slides of Gonzalez's paintings projected against the backdrop of the stage.

Many of the paintings feature images of birds and themes of ascension, as haunting figures gaze out of the frames, beautiful and scared. The dance echoes the paintings, as one dancer lifts another who flaps her arms, aching to fly. The tone of the piece is similar to that of "The Fruit Axiom," but darker.

The dancers seem to reach repeatedly upward, straining towards something higher, before falling back down to a world of regret and pain.

The dance moves through a series of bleak portraits, evoking a sense of disconnection and loss before ending as it began, with the paintings of Gonzalez projected on the back wall.

During Feb. break, the Dance Company of Middlebury College will take its production to Cuba. The trip presented some difficulty to organize, as travel to Cuba is restricted and approval for "educational" or "cultural exchange" programs is required. Chavasse said, "There was a lot of red tape, channels and protocol" to be completed in order to plan the event. Music Contact International, a firm based in Burlington that plans many of the high school and college arts exchange programs, organized the trip, developed the itinerary and will be providing an escort to accompany the group.

The Dance Company will stay in hotels, perform informally throughout the week, give at least two formal performances, and participate in Master Classes and workshops every day. It will be dancing primarily with the Narciso Medina Dance Company of Cuba, which has its own dance venue. The Cuban company presents primarily Afro-Caribbean dance and is excited to see what the contemporary, post-modern dance world of the United States is like.

The Dance Company of Middlebury will also visit other dance groups, including Cienfuegos and the Yuruba Folkloric Group, although they do not know what to anticipate.

Chavasse is prepared for the facilities to be "falling apart a little," and the need to adjust the performance for different technological capabilities. She repeatedly reminds the dancers to have "very loose expectations" of what they will find.

"That's what I like about it," Chavasse says, "I don't know what will happen, what to expect. It's an adventure."

Interpol Performs Polished Post - Punk

The Static Age, Calla and Interpol Play Live at Higher Ground

By ERIKA E. MERCER
Arts Editor

A stage bathed in red and yellow light, a hovering layer of thick smoke, a crowded room of fans anxious for music — this was the setting at Higher Ground on Sunday, Jan. 19, for the awaited performance of indie rock bands The Static Age, Calla and Interpol, sponsored by 99.9 FM The Buzz.

The night began when the local Burlington band, The Static Age, took its place on stage and began its first song, following an apology by the charismatic lead singer, Andrew Paley: "My guitar's out of tune and I've got laryngitis."

Despite his laryngitis, The Static Age performed a satisfying set: the prominent keyboards and Paley's raspy voice provided an electronic '80s flavor, while the strong beats and dark lyrics added a depth and intensity.

> Each played in his own mad reverie, apparently oblivious to all around them, yet miraculously and flawlessly creating layered, interwoven music.

Calla, the second opening act, performed more opaque, Radiohead-esque music, though with less variation and mystery than Radiohead. Each song revolved around a mounting tension, beginning slowly and hypnotically and building to a loud, pounding climax.

The lead singer, Aurelio Valle, opened his songs by crooning sometimes menacing lyrics into his microphone — "Sorry for the inconvenience / It's only 'cause I'm losing patience" — then allowing his voice to rise, wail and moan. While dramatic and mesmerizing, the songs soon became predictable and somewhat repetitive.

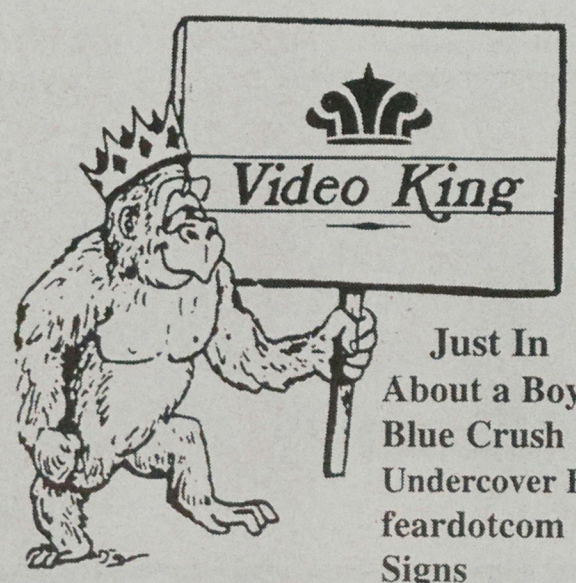
After a lengthy set change, the headlining band, Interpol, graced the stage under pink and red lights, immediately launching into a short intro while the lively audience bustled and cheered on the New York City-based quartet.

The intro melted almost imperceptibly into Interpol's first song, "Roland," an energetic introduction to their minimalist '80s post-punk sound.

The soft-spoken lead vocalist, Paul Banks, clad in a dress-shirt and tie (over which he'd casually pulled a plain black v-neck T-shirt) sang in a low, droning voice that was charmingly juxtaposed with his boyish face and scruffy hair.

Like each of the band members, he appeared completely ab-

(see Interpol, page 19)



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Let's Lower the Tone

Dick Forman 'struts' his stuff at Middlebury College's CFA

By LUCIE GREENE
Staff Writer

On Saturday Jan. 18, Dick Forman and his jazz group took to the stage at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. The quartet was comprised of Don Stearns on Sax, Jim Daggs on bass, Bob Lemnah on drums, and special guest Paul Asbell.

Formerly the head of the Center for the Arts and now a Jazz teacher and accompanist at Middlebury College, Forman finally got a chance to really "'strut his stuff."

The mood, as ever with Forman, was laid back and friendly as he guided the audience through a variety of numbers ranging from swing and acoustic Blues to simple standards.

> It had me tapping my feet and nodding my head in time. Solos were played expertly by all members, helped by the good rapport and obvious sense of fun throughout the evening.

There is something so intimate about jazz of this style, particularly in the quartet or quintet format.

Everything seems so effortlessly cool, be it warm ballads or faster tunes such as the be-bop numbers. I feel this atmosphere of relaxed intimacy made the formal stage performance seem almost unnatural.

The musicians showcased their skill, but with jazz of this nature, an open and comfortable social setting is fundamental to the entire experience.

The whole concert I was dying to be sitting at a table in a dingy basement club in the city, complete with shady characters, moody subdued lighting and a crowd of patrons who with Fosse-esque elegance chain-smoking cigarettes — this all under the pleasant haze of a stiff drink, of course.

The raked, rowed seating, the band raised on the stage and a mixture of local residents and students wearing quite respectable combinations of North Face and knitted sweaters, clutching at best a mug full of coffee (debaucherous caffeine addicts!) contrasted slightly with my vision of the ideal jazz setting.

This said, you couldn't fault the music itself.

At best the music had the hairs on the back of my neck going absolutely crazy, cut to "Real Thing" played beautifully and subtly by Don Stearns.

At worst, if that's even appropriate, it nonetheless had me tapping my feet and nodding my head in time.

Solos were played expertly by all members, helped by the good rapport and obvious sense of fun throughout the evening.

Vlad Lodoaba

Don Stearns of the Dick Forman jazz group belted out the Blues on his sax before a crowd at the Center for the Arts on Jan. 18.
Former head of the Center for the Arts, Forman not only heads this local group of artists, but he remains an accompanist at the College.

Vlad Lodoaba

Though not exactly a steamy New Orleans or Chicago venue, the Center for the Arts nonetheless was transferred back in time to the early twentieth century with the sounds of the Dick Forman jazz group.

Vlad Lodoaba

Jim Daggs plays the bass in the Dick Forman jazz group. The group blasted away the mid-winter blues with a variety of pieces raning from swing numbers to acoustic Blues.

> The mood, as ever with Forman, was laid back and friendly as he guided the audience through a variety of numbers ranging from swing and acoustic Blues to simple standards.

My favorites were Paul Asbell's acoustic Blues, "Stardust" by Hoagy Carmichael and also Jim Daggs on bass. Daggs traded 4s with Paul Asbell in "H.S." by Sonny Rollins — who quite frankly is the personification of 'cool.'

Forman, while not performing as many solos as he might have, did a great job of holding the group together and proved himself beyond measure on the few solos that he played.

The evening ended with a series of Dexter Gordon tunes including "Monmartre," "Cheesecake" and "Catalonian Nights."

The injection of variation on these numbers, including Latino hints, was particularly interesting and exciting.

I ask, too, after seeing the concert, if I am the only person who finds it confusing during jazz concerts that the audience claps after each solo.

The evening was great and definitely should be more of a regular occurrence at the College. Jazz is so easily accessible to virtually every music fan. It seems a shame that there isn't more of it played at The Grille.

There's so much acoustic, folk and country music performed, it could inject some much-needed variety.

Perhaps there could be some form of core band or quartet that played one night each week there, and made it an open "Jam" session for anyone to join.

I can imagine some wisecracking bartenders and lowered lighting to replace the civilized, clean cut, skiwear sporting and decaf-skim-soya-non-fat-no-anything coffee drinkers. Unrealistic? I live in hope.

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EVERY WEEK AMERICAN FLATBREAD AT THE MARBLE WORKS RUNS A DEDICATION AS PART OF ITS MENU. THE SUBJECT AND FORM ARE OPEN. DEDICATIONS TEND TO BE POSITIVE. IF IT IS CRITICISIM YOU OFFER PLEASE BE CONSTRUCTIVE SUBMIT BY THUR. NOON TO ROB DOWNEY VIA email AT marbleworks @ americanflatbread. com. OR WALK IN.

"The Physical Structure of Organisms" Premieres at Johnson

By SUZANNE R. MOZES
Arts Editor

DJ's Jimmy Jung '03 and Micheal Silberman '03 dictated the relaxed atmosphere with techno house music for North Chandler '03 and Zach Hefferen's '03 art opening. This intimate gathering gave both artists an opportunity to exhibit their talents for friends.

> While a little unsettling, this philosphy forces the viewer to analyse the picture relying only on his or her own intuition. No right. No wrong.

Transforming Johnson 403 into a gallery on Thursday, Jan. 23, the two seniors circled the small classroom with their most recent photos, prints and paintings.

Boldly titling the exhibit "The Physical Structure of Organisms," neither artist chose to give names to their pieces.

Only a nameplate revealing ownership and the media accompanied each piece of artwork. Chandler explained, "When you start naming, you think in one line."

Emphasizing the idea that "art is a personal experience," she did not want to influence her audience's imagination or perceptions of her work.

As a result, the students wandered around the small room with glasses of wine, occasionally nibbling on cheese, simply experiencing their peers' work, uninhibited by designations or titles.

While a little unsettling, this philosophy forces the viewer to analyze the picture relying only on his/her own intuition.

No right.

No wrong.

Both clearly appreciate vivid color.

An element of humor unifies all of Hefferen's digital photography.

Kate Fitzpatrick '03 comments, "I think he's playful. I think he has fun with [his art]." And this is true.

(see Organism, page 20)

Mike Ryan

North Chandler '03 and Zach Hefferen '03's art is now on display in Johnson. Chandler says that "art is a personal experience" and encourages viewers to use their own imaginations when viewing the pieces.

art calendar
(hey, get outta town.)

music

BARBARY COAST JAZZ ENSEMBLE: Get down with Big Band Funk, special guests brothers Joseph and Byron Bowie, Alex Harding and Tobias Ralph. Trombonist Joseph Bowie founded Defunkt in 1978 and now rocks New York's underground music scene. Groovemaster Tobias Ralph on drums adds to this fusion of funky jazz. Spalding Auditorium. Dartmouth College, Hanover NH. Sat., Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. $14. Info: www.hop.dartmouth.edu or call (603)646-2422.

MOISTBOYZ — FEAT DEAN WEEN AND DICKIE MOIST: Tired of boy bands and girl pop-rock? These boys are here to play loud rock n' roll and subvert all opinions of what is politically correct. Not for the faint of heart. Truly a unique experience, not to be missed. Higher Ground, Winooski. Fri. January 31. 8 p.m. $12 at the door. Info: www.highergroundmusic.com.

JOHN BROWN'S BODY — CLUB D'ELF: Lead by singer/guitarist Kevin Kinsella, this reggae group works toward an organic roots reggae sound. Named in honor of the legendary abolitionist, JBB bridges the gap between root reggae, trip hop and sweet pop music. All fans can appreciate this original sound. Higher Ground, Winooski. Thurs., Feb. 6. at 8 p.m. $8 advance. $10 day of show. Info: highergroundmusic.com.

art

ANDY WARHOL WORK AND PLAY: Spanning 1948-1984, this exhibit of paintings, prints and drawings borrows from public and private collections in NY, MA, VT and by Jon Kilik, New York film producer. Robert Hull Fleming Museum, UVM. Burlinton, VT. Through June 9. Curated by Janie Cohen. For information and ticket prices: 656-0750.

theater

THE CAPITOL STEPS: Returning to Burlington with their political satires and songs that mock Democrats, Republicans and Independants alike, these former Congressional staffers keep tabs on the nation's most pressing issues. In turn they deliver parodies along their national tours and National Public Radio specials. Absolutely not PC. Flynn Theater, Burlington. Fri., Feb. 7. $30. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

dance

TWYLA THARP COMPANY DANCE MASTER CLASS: Tharp's seven-member troupe presents some of its newest work set to music by Vermont composer and artist Donald "the Junk Man" Knaack. Wed., Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Flynn Theater, Burlington. $37. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

lessons

MEDITATION GROUP: Join the Yogis as they engage in Tibetan Buddhist-style meditation and Dharma study. Wed., Jan. 29 from 7:30 — 9:30 p.m. Union Street STudio, Burlington. Donations accepted. Info: 859-9270.

other

BURLINGTON PEACE VIGIL: Are you tired of Middlebury College's apathy? Join activists standing together in opposition to violence and the impending war. Stand up for peace. Top of Church Street, Burlington. Wed., Jan. 29 at 5 p.m. Free. Info: 863-2345, ext. 5.

editor's pick

WINTER IS A DRAG BALL VIII: The Vermont People with AIDS Coalition and Mountain Pride Media present The House of LeMay, a Vermont drag performance troupe, Noel Benoit and DJ Eliot Matos. Amber & Margaurite, the sisters LeMay, have raised money with their silly songs, outrageous remarks and crazy costumes since 1993. You could be the crowned Drag Queen or Drag King. Higher Ground, Winooski. Thurs., Feb. 6. 8 p.m. $10 advance. $15 day of show. Info: www.highergroundmusic.com.

Talented Takács Quartet Takes Stage

By LUCIE GREENE
Staff Writer

Saturday evening, Jan. 25, saw the prestigious and internationally-famed Takács Quartet perform at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, including Edward Dusinberre and Károly Schranz on violin, Roger Tapping on viola and András Fejér on cello.

The evening was particularly special because Middlebury College's own Associate Professor of Music Su Lian Tan composed one of the central pieces performed, and was present to both introduce and explain it. The popularity of the Takács Quartet and Tan alone was reflected in the packed concert hall, all enthusiastically supporting what was about to commence.

The evening began with a quartet by Mozart, originally devoted to Frederich Wilhelm II of Prussia. This went through four contrasting movements, each engaging a different mood and feeling. I particularly enjoyed the rich cello sections in the second movement, played beautifully by Andras Fejer.

Next, the Quartet performed "Life in Wayang," written in 2002 by Tan. Tan introduced the piece and gave a brief description on each of the movements.

This was helpful — the audience could discern and appreciate elements that previously might have been overlooked. Concerts of this nature avoid the assumption of a background in Classical music.

Needless to say, the piece was fantastic. Based on the Southeast Asian tradition of Puppet theatre, it bore clear references to Southeast Asian Gamelan Music and tribal singing.

This was achieved not only through varied use of the stringed instruments, at times even violently plucking them to reinforce the percussive nature of Gamelan, but also by using a combination of Western modality and Southeast Asian scales. Gamelan music, predominantly a Balinese style, is comprised of several percussive instruments that are plucked as an orchestra. As the piece progressed through three different movements, the intentional contrast in moods was played expertly. The first sounded menacing and confrontational.

> The second, more harmonious and pleasant in overtone, was completed with a contemplative and celebratory phase.

The second, more harmonious and pleasant in overtone, was completed with a contemplative and celebratory phase. This contemporary work played between two such institutional Classical composers and also provided a bit of variation.

To finish, the Quartet played Quartet in G major op.161, D887 by Schubert. This, again, allowed the players to demonstrate their skill by moving through each of the four sections at various stages, with each member taking a turn to dominate the melody.

(continued from page 16)

sorbed in his own character and role — formal and disheveled at the same time.

The base player, Carlos Dengler, sporting a tight, posh suit and tie, danced constantly in a jerky, erratic craze, while beside him the touring keyboardist banged frantically at his keys like a mad scientist stirring a potion.

The drummer, Samuel Fogarino, played coated in shadows, almost undetectable at the back of the stage, and guitarist Daniel Kessler played quietly off to the far left, modeling striking Elvis-impersonation sideburns and a black suit.

Each played in their own mad reverie, apparently oblivious to all around them, yet miraculously

Kathrin Schwesinger

Takács Quartet played the Center for the Arts Concert Hall on Saturday, Jan. 25.

Interpol Shines at Higher Ground

and flawlessly creating layered, interwoven music. The set contained mostly songs off of Interpol's 2002 release, "Turn On the Bright Lights," an album that won the band its current fame among other post-punk bands such as "The Strokes," "Spoon" and "The White Stripes."

> Banks' unique voice, a chilling low monotone, took on a pleasingly larger and more apparent role in the band's live performance than on their recorded albums.

The highlight of the performance came halfway through the set when Interpol played "NYC," one of their slower, more moving songs. The crowd swayed in unison as the band members shrouded themselves in clouds of cigarette smoke.

Banks' unique voice, a chilling low monotone, took on a pleasingly larger and more apparent role in the band's Sunday night live performance than on their recorded albums, where it remains much more muffled and hidden behind the instrumentation.

Due to the vocal prominence onstage, the live music assumed a level of emotionality and expressiveness not present on the mastered albums.

The live performance offered a satisfying change from the album's more produced feel, creating a high-energy, rewarding show.

The night ended with an anxiously awaited two-song encore. Finishing their last song to a room full of excited, pleased fans, Interpol played the songs, "The New" and "Obstacle 2."

Blowin' Indie Wind

Richard Buckner's Newest Album "Impasse" Surpasses Expectations

By ERIKA E. MERCER
Arts Editor

It's the final scene in a movie, when you see the main character driving off down a windy road in a beat up car, wearing an expression of resigned melancholy. The day is blustery and gray, but rainless, and there is quiet, low music playing out of the car's old tape player. Tattered and hardened by the events of the movie, the character has reached a level of self-awareness that allows him/her to be simultaneously lonely and content.

The Artist: Richard Buckner
The Album: "Impasse"
2002

The scene, while familiar, escapes being clichéd through its profound emotion, its sensitive details, its bittersweet, suspended ending. Richard Buckner claims that his music is "always about two percent devotion and 98 percent doubt" – a statement which fits the emotion of his songs. A California native, Buckner began playing music during his college years as an English major at Chico State, dabbling in several punk and alternative bands.

It wasn't until the early '90s that he found his more country-based sound and began composing his own songs. In 1994, Buckner released his first album, "Bloomed," under the Dejadisc label, which he supported by extensive touring along the West coast.

The album's success won him the attention of major record label, MCA Records, under which he recorded his second full length album, labeled – appropriate to his professed ars musica – "Devotion and Doubt," in 1997 and "Since" in 1998.

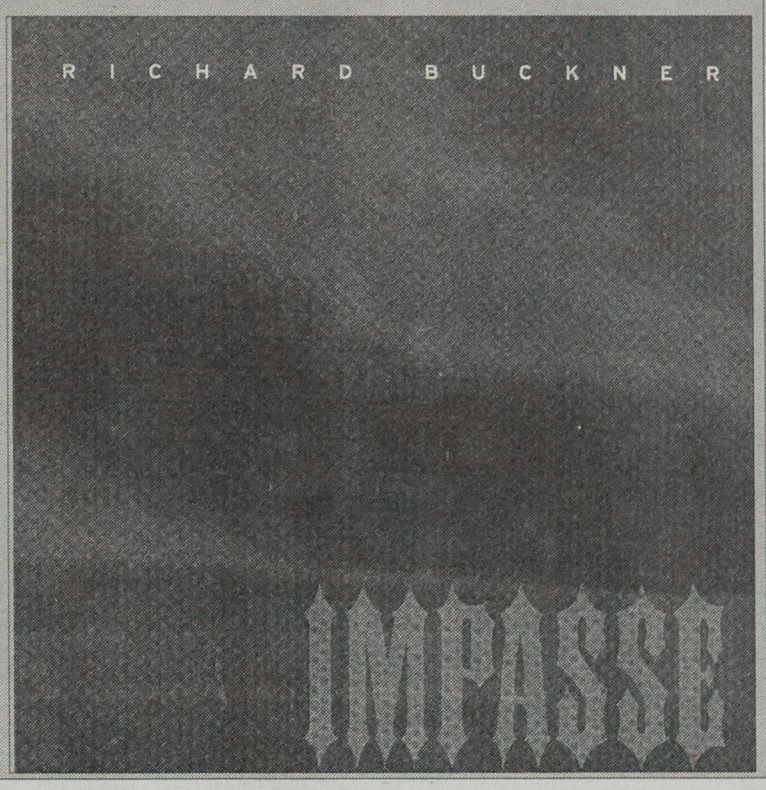
Following disagreements with MCA, Buckner switched to Slow River Records and re-released "Bloomed" in 1999, featuring new bonus tracks. In 2000, he switched again to Overcoat Records, under which he released "The Hill," a project undertaken to adapt Edgar Lee Master's literary work, "Spoon River Anthology" – a collection of autobiographical poems written from the perspective of inhabitants of a town's graveyard – to music.

The album, featuring guest musicians from the ban, Calexico, marked a significant step in Buckner's songwriting as he wrestled with aptly putting someone else's words to music.

"Impasse," Buckner's newest release, takes yet another stride forward in its effort to evoke fresh emotions and take lyrical risks. Buckner commented: "I wasn't satisfied, and I was at a loss as to why. I finally figured out it was because I wasn't working on my own, in my own time, alone – which I really needed to do. So I came back to Canada and rerecorded the whole thing by myself."

The self-produced, home-studio recording allows him to experiment with a warmer, more organic, grounded sound, creating

(see Buchner, page 20)



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Organisms and Art in Johnson

(continued from page 18)

A pill dribbles from the side of a mouth.

A woman's hand slithers upward. The artist watches himself in the side of a building.

And while these descriptions may not seem entertaining, the subtext of each photograph implies the dry humor inherent in the artist himself.

Hefferen's "organisms" of choice seem to be Homo sapiens. One photo depicts a black, blurry figure abstracted and framed by streams of yellow, orange, and blue light.

Another portrays a row of people sitting, waiting, dulled by time, reducing their colors to blocks of solid areas.

Hefferen included one painting within his collection. This large work of art presided over the exhibit with a terrifying gaze.

A woman, indiscernible if she is in pleasure or pain, in a white dress stands against a black background and yells with her mouth ajar.

> This angle coupled with the white paint subtly implies the holiness of her body as a temple.

A hand reaches from outside of the picture plane toward her neck. The lines are sharp, yet unpolished; the piece screams with emotion and yet that emotion is unidentifiable.

> A cluster of vibrant paintings, swirled in form and color and usually rounding and pregnant in shape, brightened a far wall.

Much of his collection relies on a relationship between form and light. Meanwhile, he claims, "I like to keep it simple."

Chandler's work breaches an even greater span of variety, and her "organisms" tend to be more abstract.

While she currently prefers printmaking, her photographs and paintings reflect her prior favored medias.

A particularly evocative black and white print reveals an overhead angle staring down the body of a thin, young woman with a cross of white paint between her breasts.

This angle coupled with the white paint subtly implies the holiness of her body as a temple.

A cluster of vibrant paintings, swirled in form and color and usually rounding and pregnant in shape, brightened a far wall. In one, I perceived a woman hunched in pain, doubling over the child inside of her.

An intaglio of a mermaid with back and wings arched embodies freedom as she reaches for her tail in muddied, subdivided colors.

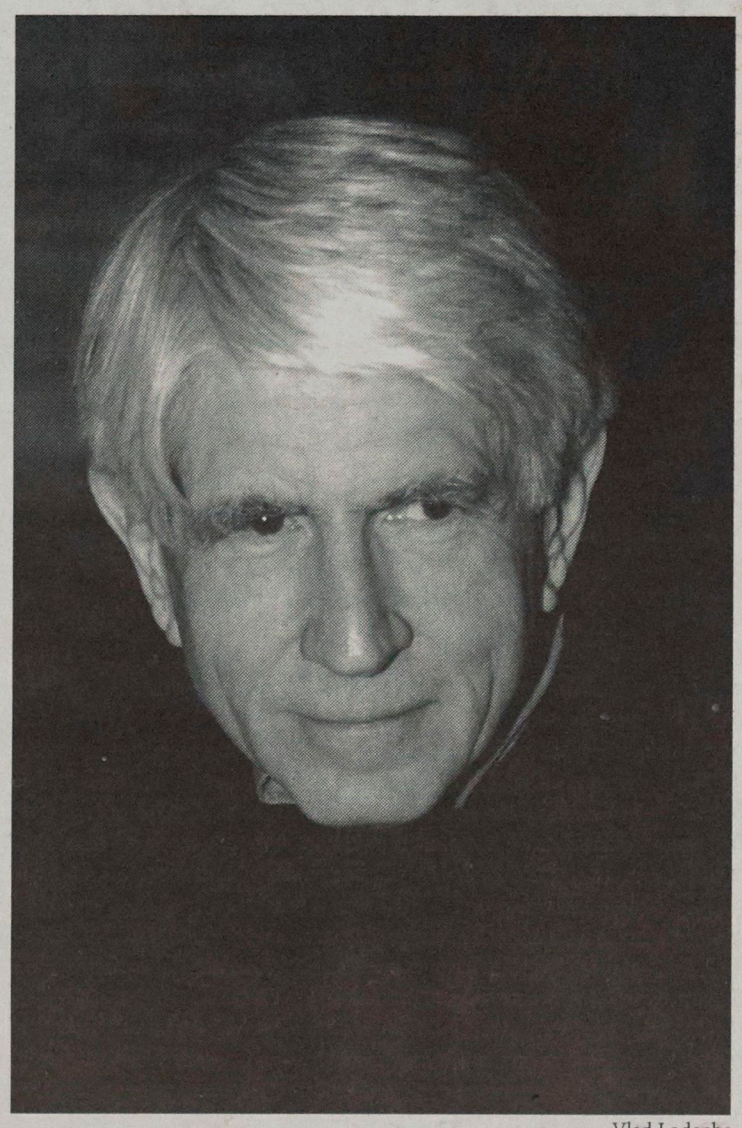
When asked if any particular artist or concept influences her, she refers back to her work and replies, "Well not really. I hope not. I hope the show shows that!"

Hefferen, an International Studies major with a focus in Art History, plans on traveling through Italy following graduation and still is trying to decide what kind of job will suit him in the future.

Chandler plans on moving to Aspen to "play" for the time being.

As the first Senior art opening of the year, both Hefferen and Chandler have set the bar for their peers with their small and intimate show.

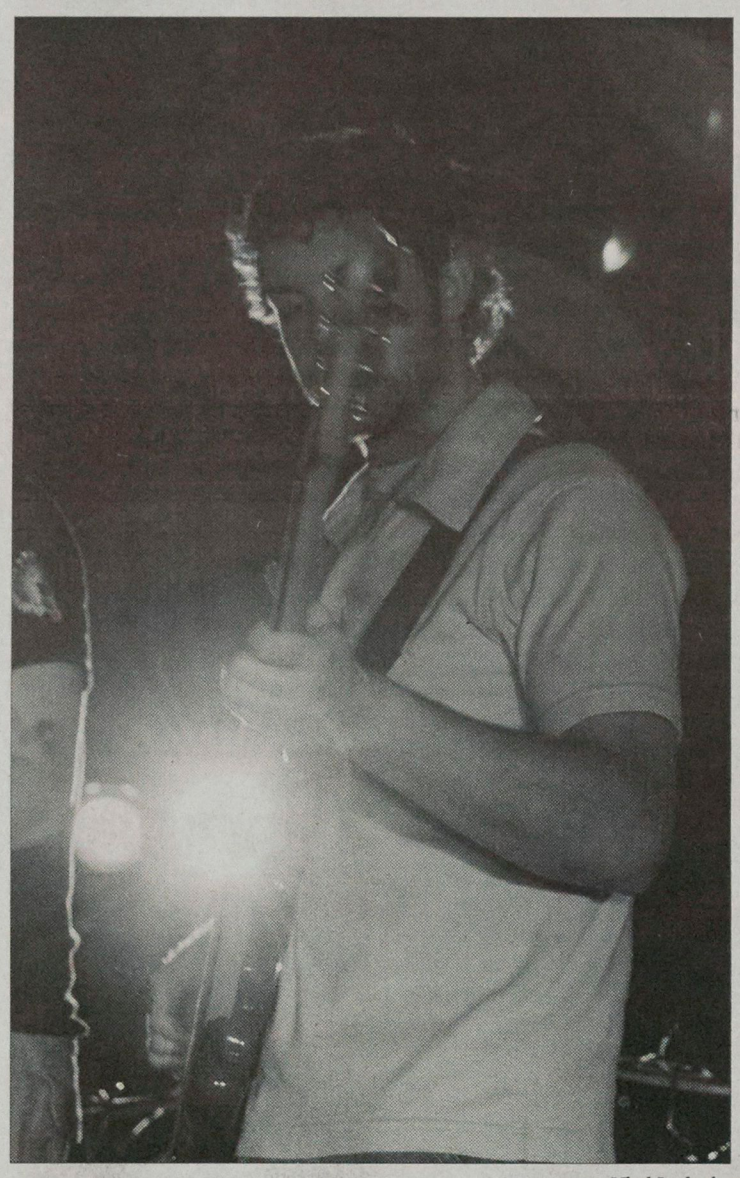
Perry Joins Film Institute Panel



Vlad Lodoaba

Fletcher Professor of the Arts Ted Perry served on a jury panel of thirteen people for the selection of ten films, including "Adaptation," "Chicago," "Frida," "Gangs of New York," "The Hours" and "Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers." The American Film Institute selects the year's most outstanding achievements in film and television, as well as significant moments in the world of moving image. While jurors' names are kept confidential until selections have been made, Perry commented that the selection committee was composed of a variety of people with various film backgrounds. "It was stimulating and exciting to sit in a room for a day with people — a newsweek critic, producers, directors, writers, etc. — who are all passionate about movies, and arguing fervently among ourselves about the virtues and defects of various films." Perry teaches a course in film and video at Middlebury College. Credits include: former director of the department of film at Museum of Modern Art in New York, trustee Emeritus of American Film Institute and visiting Henry Luce Professor of Film Studies at Harvard University.

Bands Battle It Out



Vlad Lodoaba

Staving off the cold and January blues, *this band member partakes in the annual "Battle of the Bands" on Jan. 25 in Ross Dining Hall.*

Buckner Transcends Boundaries of Alt-Country Genre

(continued from page 18)

songs that, while still often tender and sad, release intermediate rays of optimism – what he calls "a lot of happy accidents." "Impasse" is faster paced, shorter and more focused than his previous releases, employing catchy riffs and upbeat rhythms, juxtaposed with Buckner's weathered, bleak monotone.

In addition, "Impasse" while still classified as alt-country, relies little on the common twang and rootsy sound of other country music, branching out to embrace atypical instruments such as synthesizers and keyboards.

Besides drums, played by his ex-wife, Penny Jo Buckner, Richard Buckner performs all instrumentation himself, a sign of his veritable musical ability. Also, he displays his literary talent through complex, oblique lyrics, printed in the CD booklet as mini-letters and short stories to an ex-lover.

> "Impasse" is faster paced, shorter, and more focused than his previous releases, employing catchy riffs and upbeat rhythms, juxtaposed with Buckner's weathered monotone.

As one critic described, Buckner's "voice – with its arsenal of intonations, guttural lowerings, and (as Buckner himself has called them) "breathy things" – deciphers his own broken-hearted Morse code, making lyrics (lyrics one could readily dismiss as non-sensical) somehow specific and unambiguous."

Through both instrumentation and lyrics, "Impasse" illustrates Buckner's maturity and confidence: he still paints his distinctive, gray interior landscapes but dips into a new, livelier color.

"Impasse" is a polished, rewarding listen, a true demonstration of a creditable singer/songwriter's talent and conviction. In the song, "Born Into Giving It Up," Buckner sings, "Trust me, I know where I am" – and he does.

Look for Buckner's new self-titled album, soon to be released. More information at Richard Buckner's official website: http://www.richardbuckner.com/flash/index.html.

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Four Diamond Award

Panthers Drop Two Straight, Rebound Against Green Mountain

By MATT ROSS
Staff Writer

Everyone knows what excuses are like. Well the Middlebury men's basketball team refuses to use any of them following a weekend of basketball that can only be described as disappointing. Following their loss to Williams, the team knew they had no time to bounce back with their next games against conference powers Amherst and Trinity.

Men's Basketball

Saturday, January 25th

Middlebury	69
Trinity	76

Tuesday, January 28th

Middlebury	99
Green Mountain College	69

The plan was to show up at Amherst fired-up and determined to win. Unfortunately for the Panthers, the plan fell through. Junior captain David Coratti summed up the 90-60 loss saying, "The game was very disappointing. We didn't show up with the passion or energy needed to compete."

Coach Brown put in his best effort trying to rally the team for another tough game against Trinity. The team came out of the locker room with the desire that it had lacked against Amherst. The Panthers, however, ran out of gas with less than two minutes left, allowing Trinity to walk away with the 76-69 victory.

The team started the long trip back to Vermont with an 0-3 record in the league, and the vision of a conference tournament birth fading on the horizon. Again, Coratti spoke for the team saying, "We now need to play with a sense of urgency. It will take a focused effort to move up in the standings. Every game is now a must-win."

The team's moral victories are starting to pile up. Pretty soon the real victories will have to catch up for the season to be a success. The goals the team set for itself in the preseason can still be attained, but only the leadership of Coach Brown and captains Coratti and Eric Bundonis '03 and stubborn determination can save them now.

On Tuesday night, the Panthers took out their loss-fueled aggression against the Green Mountain College Eagles. Led by a scintillating 19-point performance by Bundonis, the Panthers scorched the Eagles 99-69. "This was a good win going into an important weekend. After two disappointing losses, this is a big win to get us back on track for NESCAC games," said Adam Sinoway '05.

Middlebury improved to 11-6 with the win. This weekend, the team travels north to tip-off against conference rivals Bowdoin and Colby. Then, on Feb. 4 the Panthers will take on the UVM Catamounts in what could be its toughest game yet.

Schuyler Van Horn

Middlebury works its offensive might on the court. The men's basketball team is looking to recover this weekend on a trip to Maine from losses.

Indoor Track Sends Three to NCAA Divisionals

Berkowitz, Bright and Logalbo Lead Panthers

By ERICH KAHNER
Staff Writer

The men and women's indoor track and field teams continued to improve over the last two weeks. Several athletes garnered top finishes at the Saint Lawrence Invitational on Jan. 18 and at the McGill Invitational last weekend.

A few individuals in particular put together a string of championship caliber performances. Sarah Berkowitz '05, Kevin Bright '06 and captain Adri Logalbo '03 qualified for some postseason meets in March.

Berkowitz, a pole-vaulter, will represent Middlebury in the Open New England, Eastern Coast Athletic Conference (ECACs) and Division III New England championships . With her vault of 10' 5.5" at Saint Lawrence, she also came within one and one-half inches of reaching the NCAA Division III national championships.

Bright proved multi-talented in surpassing the marks for ECAC's and Div. III New Englands in the 400 and 600 meter dashes and the long jump. He did it in style too, setting indoor school records (51.23 in the 400, 1:23.87 in the 600 and 21'0.5" in the long jump) in each of the events.

Logalbo, en route to a second place finish in which she and the winner broke the existing Saint Lawrence meet record, met the standards for ECAC's and Div. III New Englands in the 1000-meter run.

With Middlebury athletes receiving so many accolades so early, head coach Martin Beatty is pleased with his team's progress. "We are ahead of where we were last year at this point," explains Beatty. "And with the increase in the intensity of our training from last J-term, this comes as a pleasant surprise."

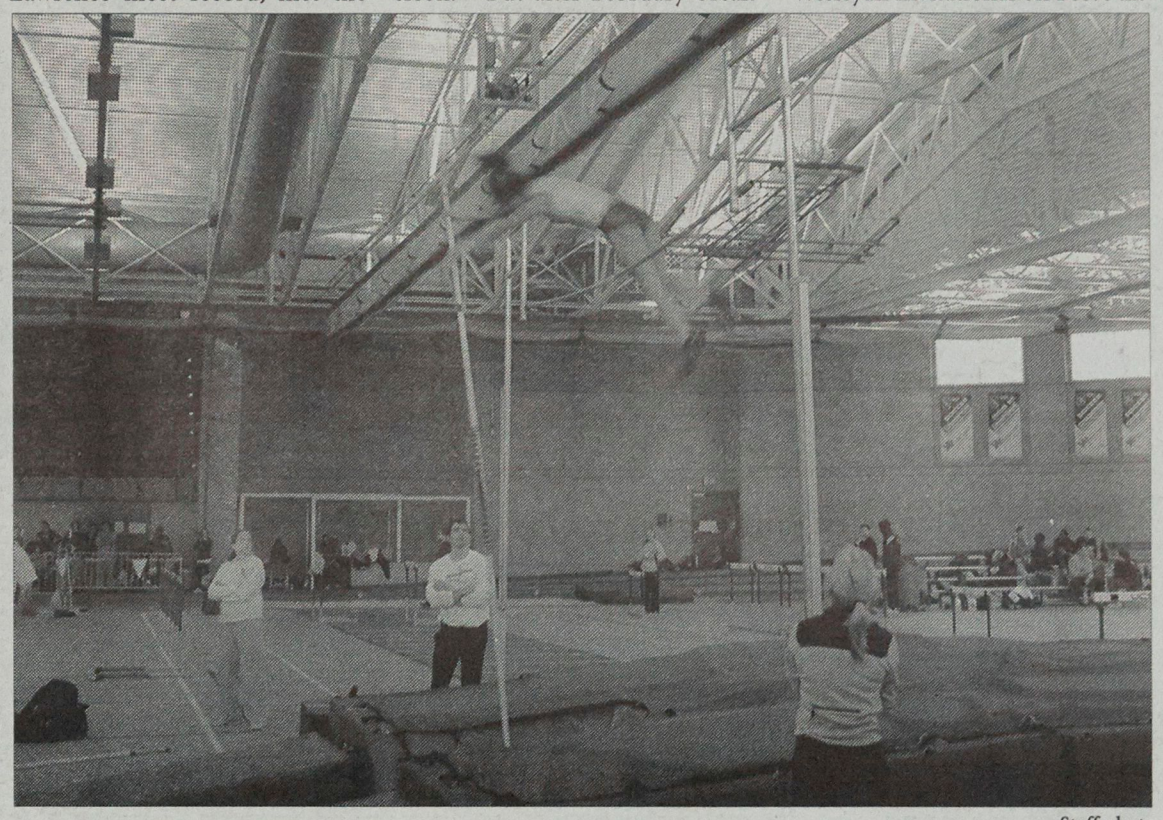
A few athletes aside, coaches expect to see some flat legs this Winter Term. In lieu of two-a-day practices and early meet departures, four times a week the team rises with the sun and gets to work before the construction crew behind Old Chapel.

"We hit it hard this month," exclaims assistant coach Nicole Wilkerson. "But after February break we cut back so the athletes can be sharp for their last few chances to qualify for some or all of the postseason meets."

Besides the three competitors who have already qualified, several panthers turned in performances the past two weeks that bode well for those last few chances.

Highlighting the many hopefuls are Nora Seger '06 in the 1500 and 3000 meter runs, and Greg Lazarus '06, Matt Engler '06, Liam Aiello '05 and Mike DeLeo '03 in the sprints. Jenny March '03 and Steve Atkinson '06 are two promising weight throwers, while Maryanne Porter '04 and Allie Williams '03 should excel in the middle distances.

The team enjoys a two-week hiatus from competition before getting back on the track at the Wesleyan Invitational on Feb. 9th.



Staff photo

Oblivious to the weather, indoor track and field grind through the winter months.

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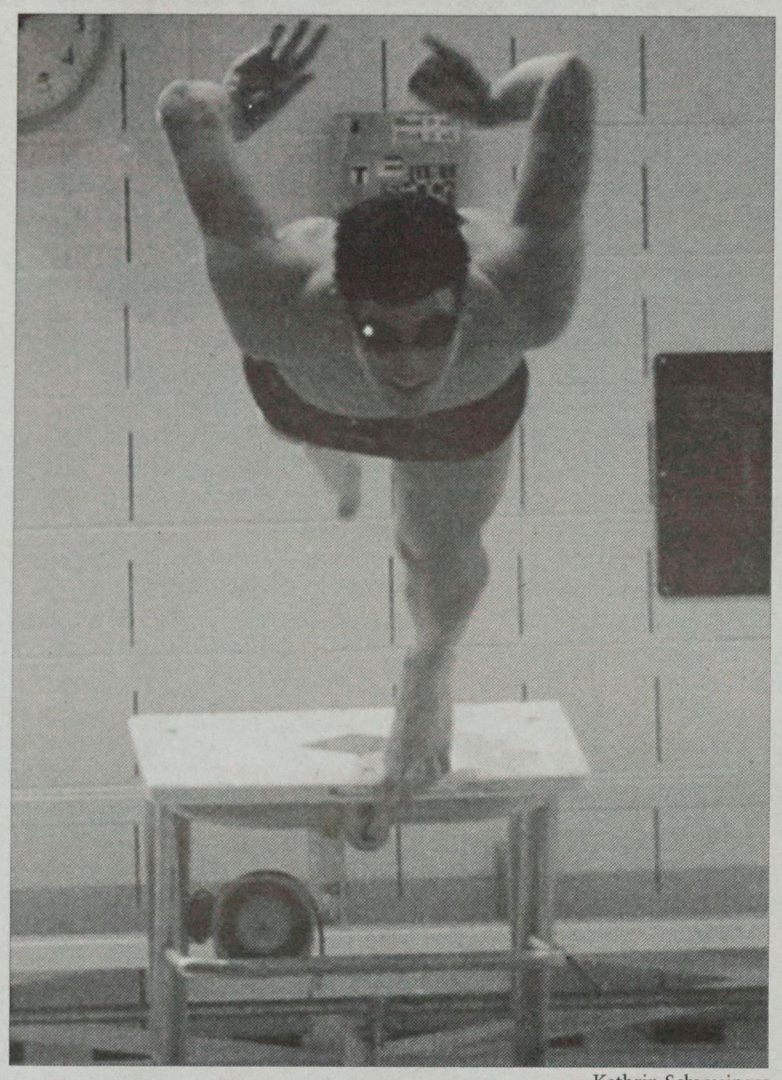
Swimmers Floating Above The Competition



Kathrin Schwesinger

Taking the plunge. Men's and women's swimming are enjoying a good season thus far. The men's team is coming off a recent victory over Union.

By DAVID FREEDMAN
Staff Writer

Heading into the final stretch of the season the Middlebury men's and women's swimming and diving teams look ready to make a strong showing at the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championships at the end of February. The women's team garnered momentum for its final two outings before postseason competition with two strong wins over Hamilton and Union Colleges. The men, meanwhile, impressed fans by coming back from a disappointing 96-135 loss to Hamilton by easily defeating Union's swimmers, 168-126.

Men's Swimming

Saturday, January 18th

Middlebury	96
Hamilton	135

Saturday, January 25th

Middlebury	168
Union	126

In the month of January the women's side has started to win with more than just first place finishes; with their record now standing at 6-1, the whole team has begun to put up points on their way to earning big wins. Lizzy Dewitt '04, Kellianne Egan '04, Alyson Lipsky '03 and McKenna Moreau '06 have consistently won or contributed to wins in relays all year long. As the whole team has improved, there are many more clean sweeps of the top places like Egan, Sarah Groff '04, Colleen Reynolds '06 and Emily Egan's '06 performances in the 500-yard freestyle against a good Hamilton squad.

Teague Douglas '06, Lily Knopman '06 and Kate Miller '05 have all stood out as huge contributors since the December break, but they have been well supported by the entire Panthers squad. With so many different women swimmers putting up serious points, it is becoming increasingly difficult to identify the team's most dangerous weapons. This was more evident than ever during these past two week's defeats over Union and Hamilton.

> With so many different women swimmers putting up serious points, it is becoming increasingly difficult to identify the team's most dangerous weapons.

The youth of the men's side has proven to be both a strength and weakness to Panther swimming. With a solid 4-3 record, the men have lost to teams with plenty of experience and depth. The victories of some of the younger Middlebury swimmers has somewhat overshadowed the consistently strong showings by many of the team's veterans.

Captain Andrew Sterling '03, Matt Clark '04, David Hawkins '05 and Jason Korsmeyer '05 all came off at least one individual victory in the past two weeks and finished in the top three places eight more times all together. Freshman Alex Demas '06, who recently won the 100 and 50 yard breaststroke events and earned second in the 400-yard individual medley and Rob Hillas '06, have been two of the faster rookies this season.

Women's Swimming

Saturday, January 18th

Middlebury	134
Hamilton	109

Saturday, January 25th

Middlebury	161
Union	116

The swimming and diving teams meet Williams on Feb. 1 and will wrap up regular-season competition the following weekend in the Middlebury Invitational on Feb. 8.

Strong Performance for Skiers

Skiers Charge ahead at UNH, Prepare for Big Weekend at UVM

By JOSH AXELROD
Staff Writer

The winter carnival season is again in full swing, and the Middlebury Panthers are showing that they can ski through the bitter temperatures outside. Beginning last weekend in Ottawa, Canada, at the Saint Lawrence University carnival, Middlebury's nordic ski teams turned in third place performances for both the men's and women's teams in the two-day pursuit.

Beginning Saturday, the Panther men went out strong in the 10km freestyle and led the field of 11 schools with stellar performances from freshman Garrot Kuzzy '06 in second place, Colin Rodgers '04 in third place and Jake Whitcomb '06 in tenth place. Marshall Greene '04, Tim Weston '03 and Andrew Savage '03.5 all finished in the top thirty as well and earned NCAA qualifying points.

On the women's side, teamwork led to strong performances as Kate Newick '03, Claire Anderson '06 and Kate Whitcomb '04 raced to eighth, ninth and tenth places, respectively in the women's 5km freestyle. Rounding out the top thirty and earning NCAA qualifying points as well were the dynamic sister duo of Taylor Leach '06 and Berkley Leach '04.

With cold temperatures persisting into last Sunday's pursuit, the men bravely took to the course for the 10km classic pursuit, a race where each contestant starts in the place they finished the previous day, racing not against the clock, but against those around them. Kuzzy again led the Panthers with a solid fifth place finish, followed by Colin Rodgers in seventh and Jake Whitcomb in 16th. Marshall Greene, Bryce Roche '05, Donovan Dums '06 and Tim Weston all turned in top thirty performances as well.

Things went equally well for the women in their 5km classic pursuit with Newick leading the Panther charge, improving to a sixth place finish. Whitcomb too moved up in the overall finishes with an eighth place performance. Losing only a little ground, Anderson showed definite poise as she finished up her first college carnival in 15th place. The Leachs rounded out the Panther's top 30.

A week later, the Panther's traveled to the University of New Hampshire Carnival. Racing only one day, the men again turned in a third place performance while the women fell just short of third with a fourth place finish.

In the 20km race, Kuzzy battled his way to the lead pack over the course of the hour-long race, finishing in fourth place. Close behind him yet again was Rodgers in seventh, while Bryce Roche turned up the heat with a fantastic 13th place finish. Greene, Weston and Dums rounded out the Middlebury top thirty.

In one of their longest races of the year, Middlebury's nordic women again showed close team comradery finishing in a tight group led by Newick, Whitcomb, and Diana Johnson '05 in 10th, 11th and 12th places respectively. The Leachs as well as Tyne Pike-Sprenger '05 rounded out Middlebury's top thirty for the women.

With less than a week to rest, Middlebury will again be out in the snow when they travel to the University of Vermont Carnival this weekend. Look for Middlebury to remain on top of the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association standings, racing their way toward NCAA's this March at Dartmouth.

STS STUDENT TRAVEL SERVICES

NESCAC Players of the Week

The NESCAC Player of the Week honor is bestowed upon one athlete from each sport every week of the regular season. These athletes are selected for strong performances in the games from throughout the week. The Middlebury men's hockey team is fortunate enough to have this honor awarded to Panthers two weeks in a row.

Week of Jan. 20: **Yen-I Chen '06**, Goalkeeper
In two road games against 12th-ranked Colby and 5th-ranked Bowdoin, Chen stopped 45 of 48 shots fired at him.

Week of Jan. 27: **Tim Schneider '06**, Forward
Schneider tallied six points with four goals and two assists in three home conference games this past week.

Week of Dec. 2: **Angela Kapus '03**, Forward (Women's Hockey)
In the opening weeks of the season, Kapus notched three goals and four assists in a pair of NESCAC games on the road.

Team photo

More skiiers take to the slopes in races this past weekend. The ski teams will be facing off against UVM this first weekend of winter break after a success over UNH.

Men's Hockey On Icy-Hot Streak

Nine Straight Wins Send Panthers into Plattsburgh

By ANDREAS APOSTOLATOS
Staff Writer

Just two weeks ago, the Middlebury men's hockey team was a mediocre fourth place in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) standings. However, after wins against Colby, Bowdoin and Williams, all strong league rivals, the Panthers (10-1-0 NESCAC) now rest just one point behind first-place Trinity.

Men's Hockey

Friday, January 24th

Middlebury	6
New England College	1

Saturday, January 25th

Middlebury	4
St. Anselm	1

Middlebury's recent successes have not come solely in the form of the team's current nine-game winning streak. Perhaps most characteristic of the Panthers' incipient league dominance is that two players, first-years Yen-I Chen and Tim Schneider, received NESCAC Player of the Week accolades in successive weeks. Chen's resiliency in goal notched him 45 saves and just three goals against Colby and Bowdoin on January 17 and 18, while Schneider managed four goals and two assists in three games during the week of Jan. 20-27.

"I think the team has really come together since the road trip to Maine," commented Schneider, who has nine goals and nine assists on the season. "Those two big wins really helped the team gel. Having Chen play so well behind us has made it even easier for us to score goals. Hopefully the team can continue to improve and I hope pucks keep going in for me."

On Friday Jan. 24, the Panthers routed New England College 6-1, led by Andrew Helming '04 (two goals), and Schneider (one goal, two assists). In a matinee the following day, Middlebury defeated St. Anselm 4-1 behind another two goals by Schneider, who is currently second on the team in most total points behind junior Kevin Cooper. Both games showcased a united Middlebury team that managed to control the puck for much of the game. The Panthers out shot both opponents by a total of 66-33.

> The more we see positive results or improvement in our play, the more confident we'll be and we can just keep raising the bar.
> —Rob Chisholm '03

"When you are a young team like we are, it takes a little while for everyone to figure out their role and learn what strengths they can bring to the table," said captain Rob Chisholm '03, when asked about the Panthers' rejuvenated play of late. "I think our momentum has been generated by everyone starting to believe in themselves and their teammates. Also, success breeds success. The more we see positive results or improvement in our play, the more confident we'll be and we can just keep raising the bar."

The Panthers have nine games left on the schedule, four of them against NESCAC opponents. On Feb. 14, Middlebury will host Trinity, a game that will potentially have heavy bearing on the NESCAC regular season title. Trinity is currently 10-0-1 against league opponents, and still has yet to play Bowdoin or Colby. In terms of overall NCAA Division III rankings, the Panthers are ranked fourth according to a United States College Hockey Online (USCHO) poll. Middlebury will play Norwich, the current first-place team, on Feb. 21 in what should be a highly contested battle. Norwich has dealt the Panthers three of its five losses dating back to the start of the 2001-2002 season.

"Our biggest challenge as a team is the same as it has been since day one: we have to continue to strive to improve daily," commented Chisholm. "We have to push ourselves to continually expect more out of each other everyday. Sometimes in sports or other activities there is a tendency to get complacent when things are going really well for you or your organization.

"We try to maintain a positive attitude about our play while remaining aware that we still have a lot of work to do to be the best team we can possibly be."

Editor's Note: On Tuesday night the Panthers defeated Plattsburgh 6-1, redeeming their early season 1-6 loss to the Cardinals. The game ended too late to meet The Campus' press deadline.

Kathrin Schwesinger

Men's hockey sent their opponents reeling this weekend with victories over New England College and St. Anselm. The team is pulling through a lightning-like nine-game winning streak.

Women's Basketball Wins Three in a Row

By EMILY BERLANSTEIN
Staff Writer

With three consecutive wins under its belt, it seems that the Panthers women's basketball team has gelled just in time for conference play. Last week, they beat Green Mountain College handily, followed by a winning weekend against Amherst and Trinity. These wins were important for the Panthers, as Wesley Hyatt '03 explained: "Both of these teams are middle-of-the-pack. We needed these wins to establish ourselves as an upper-level team in a competitive conference."

Women's Basketball

Friday, January 24th

Middlebury	64
Amherst	54

Saturday, January 25h

Middlebury	56
Trinity	48

The Green Mountain game was a fortunate introduction to NESCAC competition. Kristin Hanley '03 scored 22 points, including three three-pointers to lead the Panthers to a convincing 67-54 win. Elyse Carlson '05 added 17 points, and Alexis Batten '04 was a force under the boards with 10 rebounds.

Against Amherst, the Panthers looked strong from the start as they gained an 11 point halftime lead. The Lord Jeffs made a furious comeback in the second half, coming within two points (56-54) of the Panthers, but impressive 8-8 free throw shooting in the final minutes of the game sealed the win for the home team. Captains Kristin Hanley and Hyatt both had another impressive showing with 20 points and 14 points, respectively. Carlson was also a top scorer with 12.

The following day, Alexis Hollinger's '05 double-double (18 points, 12 rebounds) allowed the Panthers to prevail against Trinity. After several close calls, including two moments where the Bantams came within four points, Middlebury managed a 56-48 victory. The defensive effort was outstanding, as the Bantams shot a mere 27.3 percent from the field and were out-rebounded, 47-39.

On the weekend, Hyatt observed, "We didn't necessarily play up to our potential at all times this weekend, but we got out to an early lead and held on." Undoubtedly, some of the Panther's incentive was to impress the folks seated in the stands. Batten commented, "It was Parent's Weekend for our team, so everyone really wanted to play well in front of their families. In each game, the attack was balanced – everyone came out to play."

> The [Panther] defensive effort was outstanding, as the Bantams shot a mere 27.3 percent from the field and were out-rebounded, 47-39.

In the coming week, the Panthers are back on the road as they face St. Lawrence on Tuesday before traveling to Maine this weekend to play Colby and Bowdoin, two of the NESCAC's top teams. Bowdoin is currently ranked first in NESCAC standings, undefeated in conference play and posting an impressive 15-1 overall record. Colby is third in the standings with a 3-1 record in conference play and 12-4 overall. These games will allow the Panthers to measure their work thus far.

The Panthers currently lead the league in defensive scoring and defensive scoring percentage. Middlebury opponents average an unimposing 54 points per game, capitalizing on only 33 percent of their attempted field goals. The Panthers hope they will continue to convert their notable defensive statistics into offensive opportunities and this momentum will carry them through the remainder of the season. Hyatt remarked, "We really needed this weekend going into Maine."

ZIGS PICKS

By ZACH ALLEN
Contributing Columnist

And so, the NFL season is behind us, just like that. It is difficult now, sitting here on a frigid Tuesday night listening to George Bush spew lame jinogistic gibberish from the house floor, to think of anything interesting or substantial to say about the NFL season. I was told to write about the Superbowl, but, quite frankly, there is not much to say about the it. The Raiders were cooked early on, and before anyone realized it the game was hoiplessly out of reach, another hideous spectacle that didn't really bear watching — unless you had money at stake — which I did, convenmiantly enough, and this panned out well for me. The Raiders had no business throwing the ball with 10 seconds left in the game, especially not after their MVP quarterback had thrown 4 picks; but they did, for some reason, and one of those wily Buccaneer defensive backs snatched it up and returned it for 6 points. I benefitted substantially from this last-second nonsense, but for reasons that aren't worth going into here. And so now, I think I would like to turn my intensive creative labor away from football, at the risk of drawing the ire of the *Campus*' editorial staff. I don't really know who any of them are, but last week I was stripped of my prestitious title of "Staff Writer," and instead dubbed "Contributing Columnist." I'm not sure if this means anything tangible, but I am going to go ahead and take it to mean that I can "contrbute" whatever i see fit from week to week. It could be cockfighting one week, or curling the next, who knows? The only guideline is that I refuse to do research of any kind; it's not like I am getting paid.

Let's start with the horrible boondoggle that is the NBA. I saw a statistic today: the amount of money paid to NBA players who aren't playing this season for whatever reason (high ankle sprain, drug rehab, too many paternity suits) equals the GDP of Tonga. Nevermind that some cheap, worthless goon like Vin Baker gets 9 million dollars a year, traveling is not really a foul, or that the general play of the game is boring to the point of being unwatchable.

Charles Oakley once claimed that 60 percent of NBA players refused to go on the court without getting high on the marijuana beofre the game. And why not? If I was getting paid 5 million dollars a year to go scamper about in front of a half-empty American Airlines Arena every night. I would want to get high too. The nut of the problem with the NBA is that they put out a bad product. The whole league should be given away to South America as a gesture of America's goodwill.

Some people there are rumored to actually care about basketball.

Women's Hockey Unbeaten in Last Seven

Wins Over Amherst and Hamilton Solidify Panthers' Hold of Top Spot in NESCACs

By KATE NERENBERG
Sports Editor

With three New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) wins, the women's hockey team remained unbeaten in their last seven contests and improved to 11-1-1 on the season. After the successful week, the Panthers moved ahead of Bowdoin in the conference standings and now sit in the number one spot.

Women's Hockey

Friday, January 17th

Middlebury	9
Colby	1

Saturday, January 18th

Middlebury	1
Bowdoin	1

On Jan. 17, the Panthers skated away from Colby easily, with a 9-1 win at home. The Panthers wasted no time in lighting up the scoreboard as Amber Neil '03 scored just 20 seconds into the game. The White Mules made a few adjustments but could only keep the Panthers quiet for another six minutes, when Kristin Reid '04 found the back of the net at the 6:13 mark. Jen Yerigan '06 added a third goal in the second period, but it was not until the third period that the Panthers really exploded.

In the last 20 minutes of the game, Middlebury was unstoppable, scoring six goals. Once again, Neil scored at the 20-second mark, setting off a flurry of Panther goals. Just seven seconds later, Angela Kapus '03 notched the fifth Middlebury goal and Reid registered her second of the night only 40 seconds later. Colby could not hold off the Panthers as they scored just one minute later and twice more in the period. Netminder Kati Madouras ended the game with 10 saves.

The nationally second-ranked Bowdoin Polar Bears traveled to fourth-ranked Middlebury the next day for a NESCAC showdown. At the time, the teams were tied for first place in the conference standings. The Polar Bears jumped to a 1-0 lead early, finding an opening at the 5:28 mark of the first period. The contest turned into a defensive test for Bowdoin, however, as Middlebury's offense was relentless. The Panthers outshot Bowdoin, 40-17. Finally, with 1:22 remaining in the second period, Hannah Delong '06 was able to take advantage of a power play with a pass from Emily Quizon '06, finding the back of the net and tying the score. Despite Middlebury's overpowering offense, it was never able to connect, even in the overtime period.

Women's Hockey

Saturday, January 25th

Middlebury	8
Amherst	1

Friday, November 24th

Middlebury	7
Hamilton	3

"It was really frustrating to have that big of a shot advantage and not win the game," commented Jackie Cohen '05. "We had the puck down at their end for a lot of the game. This game helped us gauge where we are as a team right now and what we have to do to improve."

The Panthers used the lessons they learned in the Bowdoin game as they took on another pair of NESCAC foes the next weekend, starting with Amherst on Saturday. Although it took them awhile to warm up, once they got started, the Panthers completely dominated the game. Lorna Gifis '05 started Middlebury off with a goal at the 8:37 mark and Kapus did not even wait 30 seconds before putting the Panthers up 2-0. With two more goals in the first period and three goals in the second period, the Lord Jeffs never had a chance. Middlebury's defense worked hard, not allowing any shots on goal in the second period and only 10 for the whole game. The Panthers walked away with an 8-1 win.

The Panthers ended their four-game NESCAC stretch against a feisty Hamilton squad the next day. The Continentals converted first, at 6:08 in the first period. Although Middlebury responded two minutes later, they were never able to gain momentum like in the Amherst game. Delong put the Panthers up 2-1 with five minutes remaining in the first period. Hamilton would not go away without a fight, however, scoring at the 18:10 mark to tie the score. Before the session was over, Erin Neil '03 put the Panthers on top for good off a Reid assist. The Panthers used the second period to build their lead, scoring three goals to Hamilton's one. Erin Neil sealed the 7-3 victory in the last session with a goal at the 7:33 mark. Madouras registered seven saves on the afternoon.

The Panthers will look to improve even more on their record as they take on a slew of non-conference opponents this coming weekend. Middlebury will be wary of Manhattanville, who proved to be the Panthers' only regular-season loss last season, a 4-1 beating midway through the season. With a home-rink advantage, the Panthers will be loking to avenge this loss.

Kathrin Schwesinger

Women's hockey continues to dominate on the ice. The team is on a seven-game winning streak going into weekend competition and look to remain ultra-competitive in February.

Alpine Sports Wonderland

Team photo

Cross country ski fanatics *continue to relish the snow and cold. Skiiers go into competition this weekend against UVM.*

Alpine Skiers Shine at St. Lawrence and UNH Carnivals

By NICK FERRER
Sports Editor

After months of anticipation and training, the men's alpine skiing team is starting to shine. Just two races into the season thus far, the Panthers are quickly establishing themselves as early favorites for the NCAA alpine championships.

On Jan. 18, the Panthers opened their season in Ottawa, Canada during the St. Lawrence Carnival. Behind solid performances from John Rusten '05, Dave Coriel '06, Eric Rygg '03 and Peter Phillips '05, the Middlebury men placed third in the first Slalom event with a combined score of 76. Rusten, who finished in a close second to University of Vermont's highly touted Jimmy Cochran, was one of only two skiers on the day to record a sub 46-second run.

The men blazed the course again during day two. Rusten, Coriel and Rygg all posted top-ten finishes to vault the squad into an early lead. By the day's end, traditional powerhouses UVM and Dartmouth could only admire the Panther showing – Middlebury's 88 was a full six points ahead of the second-place Catamounts.

On the women's side, Laura Scripture '04 paced the Panthers with two stellar top-ten finishes. In what has been deemed one of the more competitive women's fields in years, Scripture's seventh place finish on Sunday guided the Panthers to a team-best fifth – well in front of perennial rival Williams and carnival host, St. Lawrence.

The following weekend, the teams traveled to Attitash, New Hampshire for the University of New Hampshire Carnival. Riding its success at St. Lawrence, the men came out of the gates flying.

Rusten continued his dominance of the previous weekend by finishing second in the Giant Slalom (GS) and first in the Slalom. Rygg wasn't far behind his teammate; he placed sixth in the GS, despite a disappointing second run, and eighth in Slalom. Newcomer Josh Transue '06, who comes to the Panthers after spending the last few years training with the U.S. Development Team, finished ninth in both events, and Phillips and Coriel each recorded top-ten times to help boost the team's score. By the weekend's end, the men had picked up a team victory in Slalom and an impressive second-place in the GS.

Transue's results were especially reassuring to teammates who worried that a knee injury from last year might have kept the star at bay. Big things are expected of both Transue and fellow rookie Coriel, and already the two are delivering.

The women's team also performed well at UNH, capturing a second-place finish in the GS and fourth in Slalom. Scripture attacked the Slalom course in under 52 seconds, while captain Brie Pike-Sprenger '04 crossed the final gates in ninth.

This weekend the teams will look to capitalize on their recent success at the UVM Carnival.